

ANTIOCH JOURNAL

Edition of December 13-19, 2007

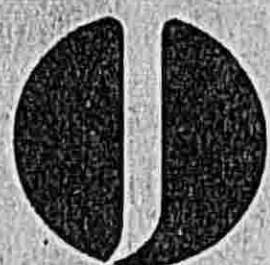
WISHES DO COME TRUE

Residents get their wish

Four young women had their wishes granted Dec. 8 by the Make-A-Wish foundation. Bill and Deb Motzer, of Lake Bluff, were the lucky ones who got to tell the girls that their wishes are going to come true.

PAGE 6A

ANTIOCH PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
757 MAIN STREET
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Breaking news @
LakeCountyJournals.com

GET OUT AND GO

Seven things to do in and around Lake County:

Meal with Santa Friday and Saturday

Enjoy brunch with Santa and take part in activities at Lambs Farm in Libertyville. Info: 847-362-4636

Get in the 'spirit' Saturday

"A Christmas Carol" will be performed at the College of Lake County in Grayslake. Info: 847-543-2077

Holiday classic Saturday and Sunday

Experience "The Magic of the Nutcracker" at Genesee Theatre in Waukegan. Info: 847-782-2366

Time for tea Sunday

Share tea with friends and family to celebrate the holidays at Infini-tea in Antioch. Info: 847-395-3520

Festive farm Through Dec. 23

Find the perfect Christmas tree and more at Richardson Farm in Spring Grove. Info: 847-675-9729

Winter Wonderland Through Jan. 5

A Winter Wonderland Holiday Light Show will be at the Cuneo Museum and Gardens. Info: 847-367-3725

Stage of sisters Through Feb. 10

A musical adaptation of "Little Women" will be performed in Lincolnshire. Info: 847-634-0200

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Proudly serving
Antioch and
North Central
Lake County

Founded in 1886

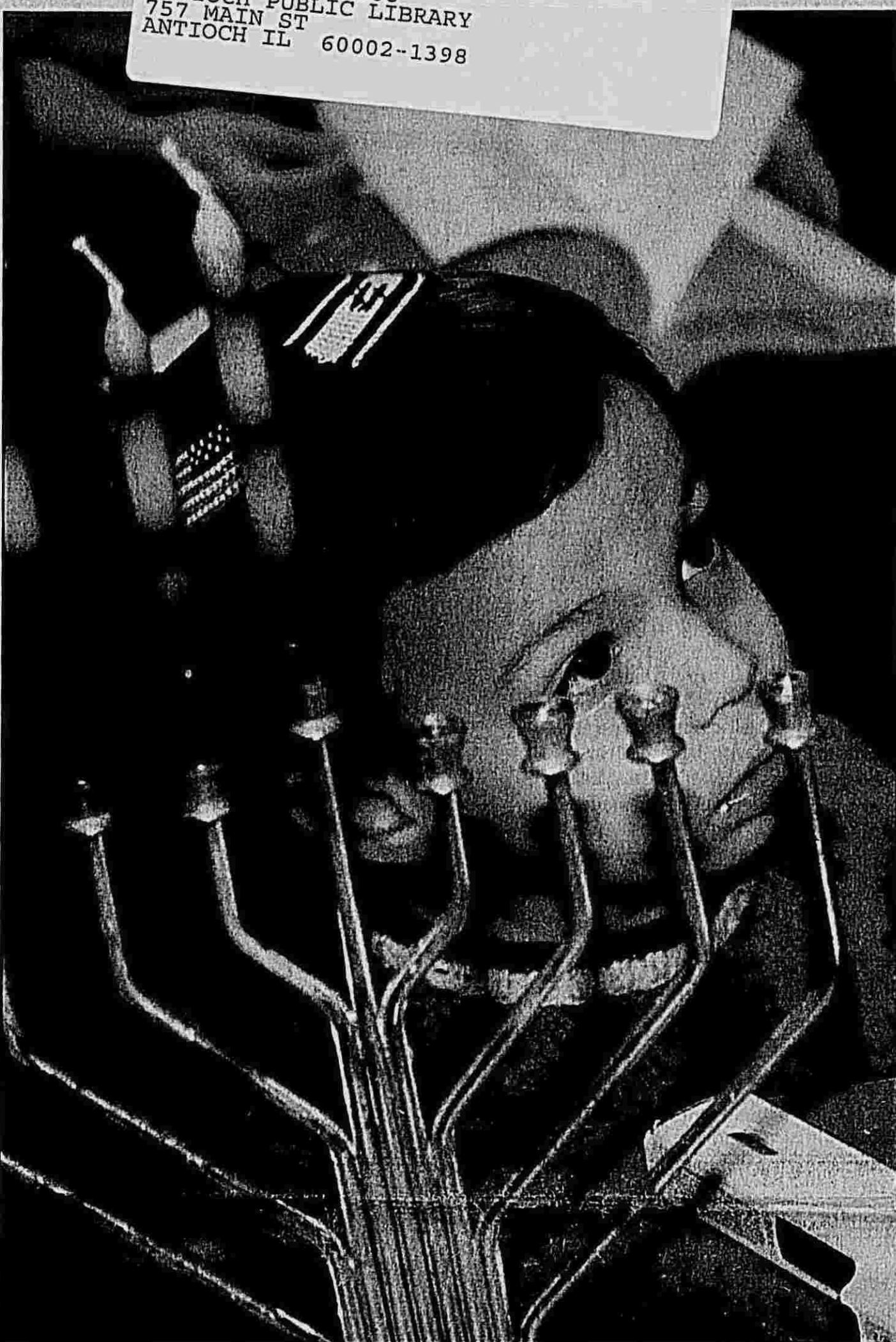
NORTHWEST
NEWS GROUP
OF GREATER CHICAGO



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FESTIVE LIGHTS

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Two-year-old Ari Meyerowitz, of Gurnee, takes in all the sights at Congregation Am Echod in Lindenhurst. Children of the congregation brought their Menorahs Dec. 7 as part of a celebration during the fourth night of Hanukkah. See PAGE 3A.

>> Lindenhurst

Trash talk

Trash, recycling rates set to increase

By HELEN MANSFIELD
hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

LINDENHURST - Lindenhurst residents are going to see their trash and recycling rates increase in 2008, but if they recycle a lot, they might get a break on a larger recycling cart.

Lindenhurst Village Administrator Jim Stevens said the Village Board discussed rate increases by Jensen Disposal Service in Mundelein, which provides trash and recycling services to the village.

The majority of residents are paying \$15.66 a month. For that price, Stevens said, residents

receive a garbage bin and a separate recycling bin and can have one large item picked up a week. That rate will increase to \$16.14 beginning Jan. 1.

The collection rate for senior citizens will increase from \$12.67 to \$13.05.

Stevens said residents who choose tag service, where they get a bag picked up each week, will pay \$2.30, an increase from the current \$2.23.

Residents who want only a recycling bin will pay \$1.91 instead of \$1.88.

The Village Board discussed the availability of larger recycling carts, which some residents have expressed an interest in.

Stevens said the current recycling carts are 38 gallons, and a 64-gallon cart could be available for \$1 more. He added that the village might take revenue from the recycling budget to subsidize the added cost for one year.

Stevens said the board also discussed implementing a ban on phosphorus fertilizer in the village, following Antioch, which passed a similar ban earlier this year.

New rates

- The majority of residents are paying \$15.66 a month. That rate will increase to \$16.14 beginning Jan. 1.

- Senior citizens pay \$12.67. That rate will increase to \$13.05 beginning Jan. 1.

- A 64-gallon recycling cart instead of the current 38-gallon cart, might be added for \$1 more.

SPORTS



>> PrepSports

Hockey makes headlines

Hockey isn't just for our northern neighbors. Lake County prep club hockey shows that as the area grows so do the number of teams. PAGE 7B

Koz coming back

Residents supported WHS football coach Glen Kozlowski at a recent school board meeting. After a winning season, 'Coach Koz' will be back. PAGE 7B

>> Can'tMiss

Wrestling

Glenbrook South Tournament, 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15

Boys Basketball

Lakes at Wauconda, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15

>> Sidelines

Is "playing just for pride" all that bad? Apparently it is for the Chicago Bears. But Lake County Journals sports editor Daniel J. Patrick has a big problem with that. PAGE 7B

LAKELIFE

>> OnTheCover

Helping someone cope with the loss of a loved one can be difficult, but a simple gift can let that someone know you're thinking about him or her. And there's no better time than the holidays to say you care. PAGE 1B

>> EveryMom

Columnist Jami Kunzer knows the holidays are going to be busy, but she reflects on all the memories that make her glad to be a mom. PAGE 6B

WEB POLL

This week's question

Sheriff Mark Curran has applied for a program allowing county employees to begin deportation proceedings against illegal immigrants. Your thoughts?

- A) It makes sense.
- B) It could lead to racial profiling.
- C) Not sure.

Vote at LakeCountyJournals.com

Last week's question

As of Jan. 1, Illinois will be a smoke-free state. Your thoughts?

- It's great. (59 percent)
- Smoking OK in bars. (24 percent)
- It will hurt business. (12 percent)
- Smoking is wrong around anyone in public. (6 percent)

IN MOTION

The county experiences the first heavy snow of the season, cops take kids shopping for Christmas and locals

celebrate Hanukkah. Check out these events and more in our Week in Photos by clicking on the Multimedia link at LakeCountyJournals.com.



WEEKEND OUTLOOK

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

HIGH: 25
LOW: 20

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

HIGH: 28
LOW: 17

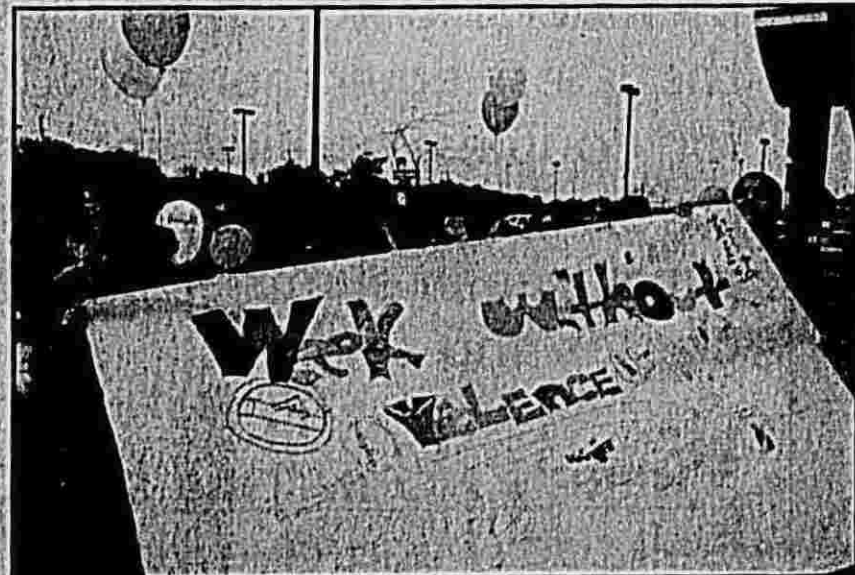
SUNDAY, DEC. 16

HIGH: 27
LOW: 21

Source: CBS2 Chicago

Updates 24/7 at LakeCountyJournals.com

IN COUNTY



Getting to know the YWCA

Kiaja Raines (left) and Elijah Ouna, both of Waukegan, carry a Week Without Violence banner as they walk for peace with the YWCA outside the Belvidere Mall in Waukegan. The Lake County Journals will examine the YWCA Lake County in a five-part series beginning this week. PAGE 7A

>> About Us

ANTIOCH JOURNAL

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Antioch area since 1886
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MAIN OFFICE
847-223-8161

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EDITORIAL
34121 N. Route 45, Suite 224,
Grayslake, IL 60030
Phone: 847-223-8161
E-mail: wjnews@nwnewsgroup.com
Fax: 847-223-8810

ADVERTISING
Sales and Classified
Cindy Gyger 847-223-8161
E-mail: cgyger@nwnewsgroup.com
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John Rung - Publisher
Chris Krug - Executive Editor

LAKE COUNTY JOURNALS

Matt Pera -
News Editor

"Serving our communities
to make them better
places to live."

>> QuoteOfTheWeek

"In America, it competes with Christmas. And our kids want presents."
—Rabbi Ze'ev Harari, of Congregation Am Echod, on the differences between how Hanukkah is celebrated in Israel and America. (see story on 3A)

>> Editor'sChoice

Journals strive to look closer at important local issues

One of the distinct elements of the Lake County Journals is our desire to take an in-depth look at important stories in the area.

As a weekly paper, we recognize the opportunity we have to create magazine-style features that look beyond the hard news angle and get at the deeper issues beneath the surface.

One of the best ways we are able to do that is through multi-part series.

Creating a series of stories on a subject allows us to convey various elements of an issue.



Matt Pera

There often is more to a story than the 500 words or so that make up one article.

In the past two years, the Journals has put together a variety of series, many of which have won state awards.

>> NewsYouNeed

This week's top local stories:

- Members of a Lindenhurst temple bring menorahs as they celebrate Hanukkah. 3A
- Winter storms leave their mark on Lake County. 6A
- Make-A-Wish grants four girls wishes Dec. 8 at the Twisted Cow in Lindenhurst. 6A

County and the various programs it provides.

That series begins this week in the County section:

We hope you enjoy these in-depth pieces that provide more information about the topics they discuss than the average story.

Have other ideas that merit a series? Let me know by e-mailing me at mpera@nwnewsgroup.com.

Thanks for reading the Journals, in print and online.

• Matt Pera is the news editor for the Lake County Journals.

>> Births

Morgan Ainsley Parker, a daughter, was born Sept. 11 at Condell Medical Center in Libertyville to Christopher and April Parker of Antioch. Her sister is Sydney, age 2.

Jacob Michael Martino, a son, was born Sept. 7 at Lake Forest Hospital to William and Christine Martino of Antioch. His brother is Joseph, age 1.

Grant Davis Moll, a son, was born Sept. 19 at Lake Forest Hospital to David and Michelle Moll of Lake Villa. His sisters are Taylor,

7 and Kallei, 5. Grandparents are William and Bernadine Moll of Lake in the Hills and Jerry and Linda Kelley of Kenosha, Wis.

Jamie Lynn Toney, a daughter, was born Sept. 11 at Lake Forest Hospital to Darren and Stacey Toney of Lake Forest. Her siblings are Jordan, 8 and Taylor, 4. Grandparents are Lon and Diana Steele of Lake Villa and Jim Toney of Lake Villa. Great-grandparents are Rita Holloman of Grayslake, Ernie and Rita Steele of Gurnee, and Avon Jones of Tennessee.

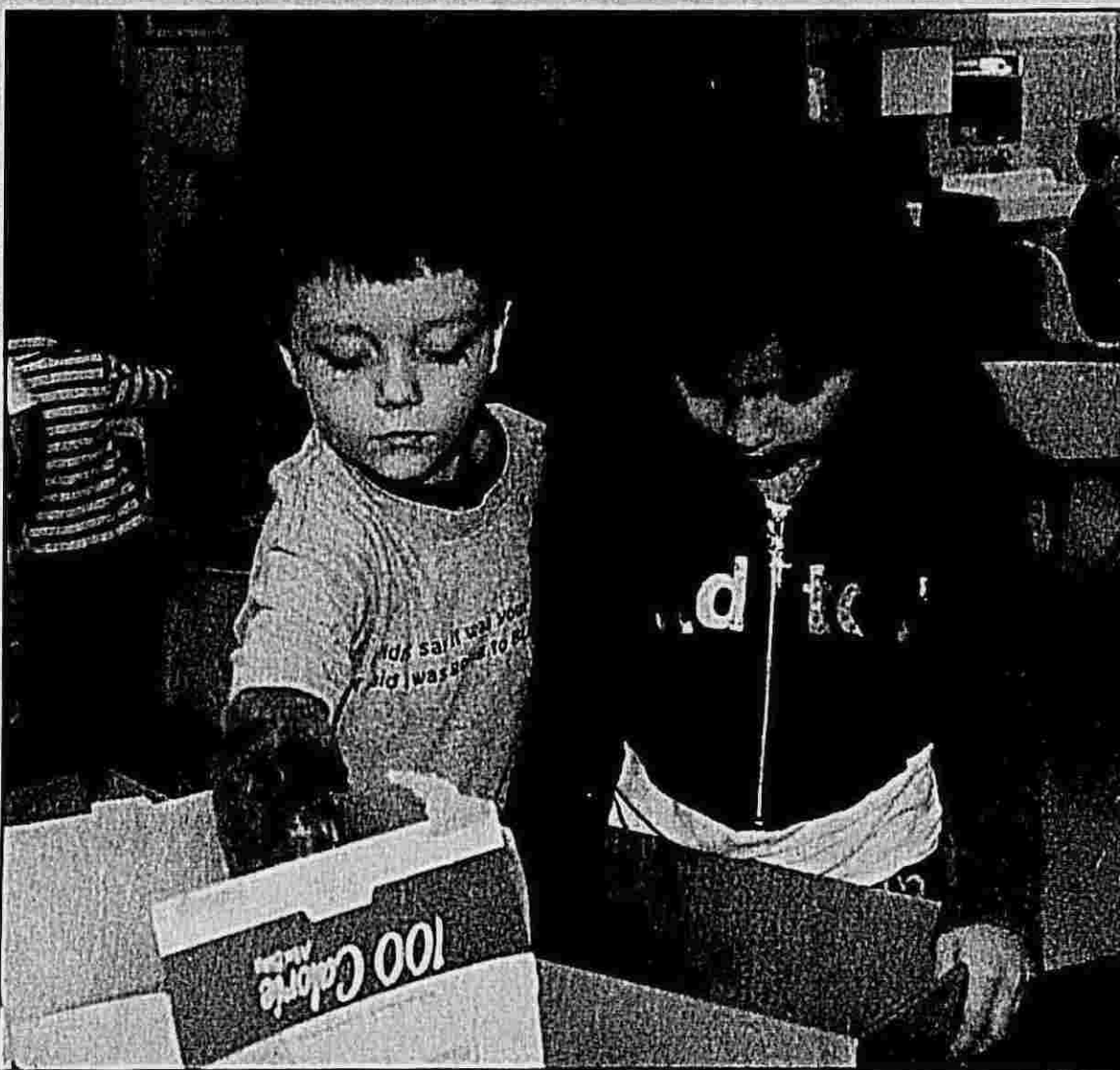
>> CorrectionsAndClarifications

Accuracy is important to us at the Lake County Journals and we strive to correct mistakes promptly. If you believe a factual error has been published,

please bring it to our attention.

Call Matt Pera at 847-223-8161, ext. 128, or e-mail him at mpera@nwnewsgroup.com.

Packed with care



Connor Clower and Vanessa Rodriguez, both students at Lindenhurst Early Childhood Center, help prepare care packages for area needy. LECC is collecting toiletries and other items until Wednesday, Dec. 19, and will send boxes to area food banks.

Helen Mansfield - hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

Round Lake Area Park District



Ugly
tie or electric
can opener?
Returnable.
A happy, healthy 2008?
Almost priceless with
this deal!

Enjoy the eggnog, then embrace the future.

Holidays wreak havoc on our diets. No one expects you to pass up Granny's famous stuffing (or to actually eat Aunt Ida's fruitcake). So how about a plan to start fresh for the new year with healthy habits and regular exercise?

From now through Jan. 31st you can save 20% off any new or 15% off any renewal or upgrade of a 1-year membership at Fitness Plus. It's close, affordable, has the latest equipment AND offers discounted packages for couples, families, seniors, students, walkers and corporations! One Year memberships include pool privileges in summer and discounts on select fitness classes and services.

THERE'S NO INITIAL FEE AND NO RISK.

Call today and give yourself the promise of a happy and healthier new year and new you!



860 Hart Rd. Round Lake • 847-740-9823 • www.rlapd.org

>>Neighbors



Drew Van Manen of Mundelein

I was born in:
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

My family:
Mom, Kathryn Osalida; stepdad, Michael Osalida; sister, Amanda Van Manen

I graduated from:
Haven't graduated yet - one and a half more years

My pets:
Sister has a hamster, a turtle and a beta fish

If I had more free time during the week, I'd:
Go spend time with my girlfriend.

Last good movie I saw:
"Last Samurai"

Favorite sports team:
Bears

Favorite home-cooked meal:
Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes

Last book I read:
"The Confessor" by Terry Goodkind

My dream job would be:
FBI agent after Marine Corps

My life's motto is:
"You only have one life. Have fun and live with no regrets."

If I could travel anywhere, I would go:
To Japan

I play a musical instrument:
I played trumpet for a year and a half. Now, I just sing.

• If you have a "Neighbor" whom we should profile in this column, call the Lake County Journals at 847-223-8161, or e-mail antioch@weeklyjournals.com or lakevilla@weeklyjournals.com.

>>Lindenhurst

An American twist on Hanukkah

Residents come out to celebrate Jewish Festival of Lights

By HELEN MANSFIELD
hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

LINDENHURST — Many Christians are usually the first to admit that Christmas has gone commercial. Christmas trees went up in mall department stores near the first of October, and radio stations started playing Christmas carols not long after that.

As goes Christmas, so goes Hanukkah.

Having grown up in Israel, Rabbi Ze'ev Harari said no one ever made a big deal about Hanukkah when he was young. He was surprised when he came to America to see how it has grown into something that is a big deal.

Best of both worlds

See how one Lake County family celebrates both Christmas and Hanukkah. See PAGE 6A.

"In America, it competes with Christmas," Harari said. "And our kids want presents."

Harari said, in the Torah, the Jewish holy book, there are five high

holy days mentioned there, which are observed along with Shabbat, or the day of rest.

"The event [Hanukkah] happened after the Jewish Bible was finished," Harari said.

In 165 B.C., the Temple of Jerusalem was re-dedicated by Judas Maccabee after it was re-taken from the conquering Greeks. The Maccabees cleaned the temple, and wanted to light a menorah, but only found enough oil to burn for one day. Miraculously, the oil lasted eight days.

"It was a miraculous victory; we were few and we were weaker," Harari said. "We should have lost."

As a youngster, Harari said students would get those eight days off from school.

He said Hanukkah is usually a cel-



Helen Mansfield - hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

Rabbi Ze'ev Harari, of Congregation Am Echod in Lindenhurst, straightens a candle on one of many menorahs brought in by the children of the congregation. On Dec. 7 50 families celebrated the fourth night of Hanukkah with a service and a potluck meal.

To learn more

For more information on Congregation Am Echod, at 2945 Falling Waters Blvd. in Lindenhurst, call 847-265-1818, or check its Web site at www.amechod.org.

celebration that takes place at home, and family members will gather each night to light one of the menorah's candles.

Dec. 7, members of Congregation Am Echod in Lindenhurst came together with a potluck of "foods fried

in olive oil, to celebrate the fourth night of Hanukkah.

Harari, of Lake Villa, said items like potato latkes and sufganiot - a type of fried jelly doughnut - probably aren't for the health conscious.

"[Sufganiot are] not extremely healthy, but if done right, they're extremely delicious," he said with a laugh.

Grayslake resident Amy Shriberg has been attending Am Echod for a year.

"We [the Shriberg family] went to Gurnee Mills to see the giant menorah they have," she said.

>> OurTown



Helen Mansfield

Santa's on the run

Newport Township Fire District will have its annual **Santa Run** at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. Firetrucks will transport Santa throughout Newport Township to hand out candy and Christmas cheer.

For information, check the Newport Fire District's Web site at www.newportfire.org

After a couple of days, most of us are going to be tired of eating left-over ham, or turkey, or whatever graced our Christmas dinner table. If you're in the mood for something different, the **Antioch Public Library District** has something for you.

"**Family Dinner and a Movie**" will take place at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, at the library, 757 N. Main St. (Route 83). Bring your dinner and enjoy "**Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End**."

For information, check out the library's Web site at www.apld.info, or call 847-395-0874.

The **Lindenhurst Early Childhood Center** is hosting its 16th annual "**Gift of Giving**" program. The center will collect new toys, gently used clothing and toys, canned food, and toiletries to provide more than 300 care packages for local families through Dec. 19.

The center also has accepted wish-lists from more than 150 foster children in Lake County. Children's names are hanging from the holiday tree at the center, 309 Granada Blvd. Dropoff times are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 847-356-2288.

• If you have interesting information or anecdotes to submit for "Our Town," e-mail reporter Helen Mansfield at hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com.

Dockers Restaurant

33 W. Grand Ave. ~ Fox Lake, IL ~ 847-973-0033

Dockers Restaurant sponsored its 4th annual Dockers Duffers Golf Benefit on September 10, 2007 at the Fox Lake Country Club. Mario and Chano Martinez would like to thank the hole sponsors, gift contributors and players of this years event. It is only through your generosity that we were able to raise \$19,000.00 for the Fox Lake Police Department "SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM". We deeply appreciate everything our supporters and volunteers did to help make this years golf benefit the best yet. The proceeds from this event will put smiles on a lot of children's faces in this community on December 5, 2007, when they are taken to the Antioch Wal-Mart to celebrate their Christmas purchases. On behalf of Dockers Restaurant, the Village of Fox Lake and the Fox Lake Police Department, we would like to recognize the following that made this possible.

HOLE SPONSORS

American Fitness Center
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A.S.A.P. Vending & Games
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Auto Connection
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Bulk Systems
Burgess Family
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Dover Straits
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El Puerto Restaurant
Falcon Precision Industries
Famous Freddie's Roadhouse
Fischer Bros. Construction Co. & Concrete, INC.
Fluorecycle, INC.
Fox Lake Family Restaurant
Fox Lake Harbor
Gaelic Fire Brigade
Harter & Schottland, Attorneys
Hillcrest Nursing Services
Kevan's Bar

K-G Electric
KK Hamsher Funeral Home
Lake County Sheriff's Marine Unit
Lake Shore Harley
McClure Engineering Assoc., INC.
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Olson Machining
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Thelen Sand & Gravel, INC.
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Totally Wood Flooring
Toyota- Fox Lake
Unique Auto Storage
Walk On Wood
Wal-Mart Antioch

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Chuck & Brenda Fagan

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Dog n Suds
Fox Lake Country Club
Fox Lake Police Department
Fox Lake Theatre
Incognito Restaurant
Jet Funn
Jewel Foods Fox Lake
KC Cabin

Kiss Golf Academy
Moretti's Ala-Carte
Entertainment
Millers Beer
Paradise Jewelry
Pampered Panda
Pizza Hut
Professio Nail
Ray Suzuki Fox Lake

Rosati's Pizza
State Bank & Trust- Volo
Trustee Fox Lake
Vals Foods Fox Lake
Wal-Mart Antioch
Watts Marina
Za Za's Italian Eatery

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their generous contributions towards the refreshments for the children, prior to their Christmas shopping on December 5th.

Channel Inn Restaurant
Dominick's

Jimmy V's
K. C. Cabin

Moretti's Restaurant
Pizza Hut

Rosati's Pizza
Rumors



The Village of Fox Lake wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season and would like to send a great big **THANK YOU** to the following people and businesses for helping with the **51st Annual Korpan's Christmas Parade & Holiday Events**

Ace Hardware
American Legion Post 703
American Legion Riders Post 703
Balloons to You
Bank of America
Barb Wigginton
Benny the Bull
Bill Edgcomb
Bo & Laurie Swayze
Bonnie Thomson Carter
Buffalo Wild Wings
Burger King
Carol Ulsay, Trustee
Cartridge World of McHenry
Catalog Corp.
Channel Inn
Chicago Luvabulls
Children's Party Volunteers
Chuck & Brenda Fagan
Cindy Irwin, Mayor
Coca Cola Company
Comcast Cable
Dino's Den
Dockers Restaurant
Ed Bender, Trustee
El Puerto Mexican Restaurant
Eric Osland
Fox Lake Ace Hardware
Fox Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Fox Lake Chrysler/Dodge
Fox Lake Fire Department
Fox Lake Ford
Fox Lake Lions Club
Fox Lake Toyota/Scion
Fox Lake Travel
Fox Recovery & Towing
Fox Valley Graphic, Inc.
Grand Ave. Hair Club
Grant High School Football Team

Grant High School Cheerleaders
Grant Community High School Band
Grant Community High School Choir
Grant Community High School
Grant Township Highway Department
Grant Township Officials
Grant Township Queens
Greg Murrey, Trustee
Hollywood Video
Incognito
Jack Kiesgen - Trustee & Kim Kiesgen
Jesus Freaks
Jewel/Osco
Jim & Terri Jones
Jim & Nancy Rogers
Jimmy V's
Juggling Elf
Karen Jakstas
KC Cabin
Ken & Carol Ward
K.K. Hamsher Funeral Home
Kristof's Entertainment Center
Lakeland Barber Shop
Lakeland Cardinals Cheerleaders
Lamp Post Beauty Salon
Lily Roman
Marianne Working
Mark Curran, Lake County Sheriff
Mark Goebel Enterprises
Maravela's Banquet
McDonald's
Memory Makers DJ Service
Merry Maskers Carolers
Michael Lescher, Emcee
Mineola Restaurant & Marina
Mitch Nielsen, Photographer
Nancy Koske, Trustee

National Athletic Club
Noel Working, Trustee
Parade Volunteers
Paradise Jewelry & Coin
Paradise Park Assisted Living
Prunella's Florist
Pug Mahones
Rapp Supply
Ravs' Spa
Riverside Chocolate Factory
Ron & Kay Starostovic
Ronald McDonald
Rosati's
Round Lake Heights Police-Chief Johnson
RPM Music
Rumors on Grand
Ruth Michniewicz
Ruth Stark-Grand Marshall
Samantha Weeks, Clerk
Second Federal Savings & Loan
Sign Appeal
Southpaw, Chicago White Sox
Stanton/Lotus Choirs
St. Bede's School
Superior Paving
Tebela Motor Patrol
Tim Hoehne
Thelen Sand & Gravel
The Sinful Saints Dixieland Jazz
US Bank
US Navy Drill Corp & Drill Team
Val's Fresh Market
Vichy Salon
Village of Fox Lake
Wellcars-Western Lake County Amateur Radio Society
West Marine
Whistle Stop
Za Za's



SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO...

Our Judges: Judy Fojtik, Kathleen Skoli, Sherry Doyle, Chief Mike Behan and the Fox Lake Police Department & Explorers, Chief Ron Hoehne and the Fox Lake Fire Department, Fox Lake Public Works, The Korpan Family for 51 years of sponsorship, Second Federal Savings & Loan for hosting our Coloring Contest.

The winners are...

2-4 Years Old

1st - Zack Mesa
2nd - Matthew Frank
3rd - Frida Hernandez

5-6 Years Old

1st - Taylor Schweiss
2nd - Abby Mcaffrey
3rd - Vivian

7-8 Years Old

1st - Jennifer Song
2nd - Madison Taylor
Nourigat
3rd - Aldahir Albiter

9-10 Years Old

1st - Nathaniel Abernath
2nd - Jonathan Nolasco
3rd - Geraci

Parade Winners

Decorated Cars & Trucks

1st - Bonnie Thomson Carter
2nd - Lake Cty Sheriff

Vintage Cars & Trucks

1st - Thelen Sand & Gravel
2nd - Sinful Saints
Dixieland Band

Professional Floats

1st - Jewel
2nd - Ronald McDonald

Amateur Floats

1st - Rav Spa
2nd - Lakeland Cardinals #37

Trucks Floats

1st - F.L. Chamber
2nd - Grant Twp Hwy

Professional Marchers

1st - Navy Color Guard
2nd - Luvabulls

Cardinals Amateur Marchers

1st - St. Bede's School
2nd - Grant H. S. Band

Speciality

1st - Paradise Jewelry
2nd - Rapp Supply

Grand Marshall Award

St. Bede's School



• **"See Your Soldier" program.** University of Illinois Extension is sponsoring video conferences with troops stationed in Iraq at Camp Al Asad and Camp Taji/Cooke. A limited number of 30-minute slots will be available on Jan. 8 and 9. The program is free, but you must register by Dec. 17. For more information, call 847-223-8627 or visit www.seeyoursoldier.uiuc.edu.

• **Alcoholic's Anonymous meetings.** Several meetings throughout Lake County on a daily basis. Call 847-362-1811 or visit www.district10nia.org for meeting information.

• **Domestic Violence Victim support groups.** Several held throughout Lake County. Call A Safe Place at 847-249-4450; TTY at 847-249-6557; or visit www.asafe-placeforhelp.org.

ANTIOCH

• Antioch Viking

Cheerleaders Pancake

Breakfast. 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 15. Antioch Senior Center, 817 Holbeck. Santa and a holiday gift shop will be available. Tickets are available at the door or contact Nichole at 847-489-8033.

• **St. Peter Council of Catholic Women Cookie Walk and Mini-Bazaar.** Saturday, Dec. 15, 5-7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 16, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. St. Peter Catholic Church, 557 Lake St. For more information, call 847-395-2354.

• **Antioch Village Board regular meeting.** 7:30 p.m., third Mondays. Village Hall, 874 Main St.

• **Antioch Park Board meeting.** 7 p.m., third Wednesdays. Municipal Building, 874 Main St. For more information, call 847-395-1000.

• **Antioch Community High School Board meeting.** 7:30 p.m., third Thursdays.

• **Lake County Community Health Partnership Immunization Clinic.** 4-6 p.m., third Wednesdays. VFW Post 4551, 75 North Ave. \$10/shot. Call 847-377-8470 for details.

• **Take Off Pounds Sensibly meeting.** 6 p.m., Wednesdays, weigh-in, 7 p.m. meeting. The Senior Center, 817 Holbeck Drive. Call Dorothy at 847-395-7407 or Betty at 847-838-3907 for more information.

• **Kiwanis Club of Antioch meeting.** Noon, Tuesdays. Petrucci's Italian Market & Cafe, 311 Depot St. The public is welcome to join and share experience, knowledge and service project ideas. Contact Melissa at 847-489-8044, e-mail at mjrigoni@hotmail.com, or Larry Mondie at 847-650-9530, e-mail at brscoops@aol.com for more information.

• **Antioch Township Republican Club meeting.** 7 p.m., third Wednesdays. Antioch Township offices. Call Brent Bluthardt at 847-838-0212 for more information.

• **Antioch Coin Club meeting.** 7:30 p.m., third Mondays. Antioch Library, 757 Main St. Open to the public. Call JoAnne at 847-395-4738 for more information.

• **Lake County Spinner's Guild meeting.** 10 a.m., third Thursdays. Call Chris at 847-840-6464 for details.

• **Lakes Area Community Band rehearsal.** 7-9 p.m., Mondays. Antioch Community High School band room. Area musicians high school age and older are welcome to join. No auditions. Call Debbie Davis at 847-395-0272 to

learn more.

CRYSTAL LAKE

• **Fox Valley Chapter, USA Dance, event, "We Request Your Presents Charity Ball."** 7-11 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15. Lakeside Legacy Arts Park, Sage Gallery, 401 Country Club Road. Free waltz lesson. Admission is \$7 per person for members and \$10 per person for nonmembers. The dress code is dressy casual, no gym shoes or blue jeans. For more information, call 847-639-8699 or 815-337-6860, or visit www.dancefoxvalley.org.

• **Crystal Lake Toastmasters Club meeting.** 8-10 a.m., first and third Saturdays at Amcore Bank Building, Route 14 and Pingree Road. Develop your presentation and leadership skills. For information, call Steve at 847-526-1525 or visit <http://user.mc.net/~toast1>.

GRAYSLAKE

• **Winter Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays, Nov. 24-Dec. 22. Centennial Park, Slusser and Center Streets, downtown. For more information, call 847-289-7138.

• **"A Christmas Carol."** 3 and 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15. College of Lake County, James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts, 19351 W. Washington St. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$6 for children for the early show, and \$31 and \$13 for the late show. Tickets are available at the CLC Box Office, by phone at 847-543-2300 or at www.clcillinois.edu/tickets.

GURNEE

• **Gurnee Jaycees, Gurnee/Lindenhurst chapter, meeting.** 7:30 p.m., third Wednesdays. In-Laws Restaurant, 720 N. Milwaukee Ave. Visit www.gurneejaycees.org

or write to Jaycees, P.O. Box 465, Gurnee, IL 60031 for more details.

LAKE VILLA

• **Weigh to Win meeting.** 7-8 p.m., Tuesdays. Celvry Christian Center, Monaville Road. Call 847-356-6181 to learn more.

• **La Leche League of Central Lake County meeting.** 10 a.m., third Wednesdays. Lake Villa United Methodist Church on Sherwood. No fee or registration required to attend. La Leche League is dedicated to support for women who choose breastfeeding. Children of all ages are welcome. Call any of these group leaders: Karen 847-918-1257, Valerie 847-838-0581 or Chris 847-367-2536.

• **Lake Villa Take Off Pounds Sensibly meeting.** 4:30 p.m., Wednesdays. Church of the Holy Family, 25291 W. Lehman. Call

Debbie at 847-687-5531 for details.

• **Chain O'Lakes Model A Ford Club meeting.** 7:30 p.m., third Tuesdays. Lake Villa City Park, Fairfield and Grand Avenue.

LINDENHURST

• **Lindenhurst Planning Commission meeting.** 7 p.m., first and third Wednesdays. Village Hall Board Room, 2301 E. Sand Lake Road. Call 847-356-8252 to learn more.

• **Free blood pressure screening.** 8 a.m.-noon, Mondays. The Village at Victory Lakes Continuing Care Center. Call 847-356-5900 to learn more.

• **Alzheimer's support group meeting.** 4 p.m., third Wednesdays. Victory Lakes Continuing Care Center, 1055 E. Grand Ave. Call 847-356-5900 to

learn more.

• **Lindenhurst/Lakes Area Kiwanis Club meeting.** 7:30-8:30 a.m., first and third Thursdays. State Bank of the Lakes, 2031 E. Grand Ave. For more information, call 847-356-5700.

BURLINGTON, WIS.

• **Burlington Genealogical Society meeting.** 7 p.m., third Wednesdays. Burlington Public Library, Pine and Jefferson St. Call Marion at 414-763-6981 or Marilyn at 414-728-2225 to learn more.

• To submit an item, e-mail to wjcalendar@weeklyjournals.com, phone 847-223-8161 or fax (847) 223-8810 at least 14 days before the event.

To see an expanded calendar of events, check out LakeCountyJournals.com under MyHometown.

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>> Lindenhurst

When you wish upon a star

Four young women receives 'wishes' from Make-A-Wish

By HELEN MANSFIELD
hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

LINDENHURST — There weren't a lot of people at the Twisted Cow in Lindenhurst Dec. 8. It is December after all; who really wants ice cream in this weather?

But the shop along Route 132 glowed with warmth. Inside Santa Claus was waiting for some very special young ladies. Bill and Deb Motzer, of Lake Bluff, were throwing a party, and they were visibly anxious in anticipation of the guests' arrival.

Eight-year-old Danna Emberton was the first to arrive. Parents Bill and Tammy, and her brother Daniel, 13, came from their home in Lake Villa to meet Danna's generous benefactors, the Motzers who represent Make-A-Wish of Northern Illinois.

Danna was diagnosed with biliary atresia, a condition where her bile ducts are not attached to her intestines, Tammy said. If not corrected, it can cause death. She had a Kasai procedure, which connected the two, then Danna needed a liver transplant. She will have to be on various anti-rejection medications for the rest of her life. She also has been diagnosed with pancreatitis, so she needs to be careful about fatty foods she eats.

"She's susceptible to infections, so we have to watch her close," Tammy said.

Danna, a third-grader at Olive Martin Elementary School, recently had a wish granted by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The Emberton family will head to Orlando next month to spend the week of Danna's birthday at Disney World.

At 18, Hailey White, of Wauconda, is a bit old to be a "Make-A-Wisher," but she and her family have been through a great ordeal this past year. In September of 2006, Hailey was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer that spreads throughout the lymph nodes.

"She had no health issues before this," said mom Becky.

Hodgkin's lymphoma can be aggressive, but with radiation, Hailey has been in remission for seven months.

Along with dad, Rick, sister Kelsy, 19; and Adam, 15, the whole family will be spending Christmas in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Once Hailey graduates in the spring



Eighteen-year-old Hailey White, of Wauconda, chats with Santa. Hailey and her family will spend Christmas in Montego Bay, Bahamas, through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. A year ago she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma and is currently in remission.

What's your wish?

According to Make-A-Wish's Web site, more than 45 percent of all children chose to go to Disney World or on a Disney Cruise. For more information, check the Illinois foundation's Web site at www.wishes.org, or call 312-602-9474.

from Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, she plans on taking her pre-requisites at the College of Lake County, and would like to transfer to University of Illinois or University of Wisconsin-Madison, to become an equine veterinarian technician.

"She's going to have to go to an oncologist every three months for the next five years," Becky said.

In 1992, Bill and Deb Motzer lost their daughter Stephanie to pancreatic cancer. Bill said Stephanie had been a Make-A-Wish recipient, so the pair have been volunteer "wish grantors" for the past 10 years.

"We look back at it with warm memories," Bill said of Stephanie's Make-A-Wish experience.

The program is open to children with life-threatening medical conditions, not just those who are terminal. It's the pair's job to meet with the wish child and his or her family, see how their wish could be granted, and then contact the wish office in Chicago.

Brittany Kanka, 17, of Lake Villa, was unable to attend the get together. She and her family will spend a week at Atlantis in the Bahamas.

Felicia Rivas is between wishes. The 9-year-old girl's first wish is to meet "Hannah Montana" star Miley Cyrus. Hannah is so popular right now, it is difficult to get an audience with the young lady these days.

"She [Felicia] is on a waiting list right now," said Deb. "She's being very patient, before she moves onto her second wish."

Felicia's second wish would allow her to go to the Bahamas with her mom, Jessica, and stepdad, Mike Campbell.

Jessica said Felicia, a fourth-grader at Gavin Central School in Ingleside, was diagnosed with papillary thyroid cancer in January of 2006.

"It's been a rough couple of years," Jessica said.

>> WeatherUpdate

It's no winter wonderland

Icy conditions lead to several school closings

By HELEN MANSFIELD
hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

The rooftops and roadways covered with layers of white snow and ice have created white-knuckled driving conditions for drivers throughout Lake County for the past two weeks.

There were multiple school closings in the area after mixtures of rain and ice Dec. 11. Suburban Metra lines were delayed as much as an hour that day.

Last week, Sgt. Christopher Thompson with the Lake County Sheriff's Department said deputies

handled about 148 accidents, disabled trucks and cars in various ditches from 3 p.m. Dec. 4 to 3 p.m. Dec. 5.

Robin Gesinski, records supervisor for the Lake Villa Police Department, said "knock wood," there had been no accidents reported Dec. 11.

Lindenhurst Police Chief Jack McKeever said he hadn't heard about any unusual activities such as accidents or crashes. In the early morning hours, he said, he traveled to Lake Bluff, calling the sporadic patches of ice "dicey," but not bad.

"People think it's crazy, but most accidents tend to be during daylight hours and in good weather," McKeever said.

After two weeks of this dicey weather, it's possible drivers are being more cautious.

>> PoliceBeat

People named here have only been charged with these crimes, not convicted. Information in Police Beat comes from local police records.

GURNEE

Revoked license

Shelena L. Ramos, 20, 2923 Gideon Ave., Zion, driving with a revoked license, Dec. 11.

In-state warrant

Jose M. Lopez, 29, 561 W. Elm St., Mundelein, in-state warrant, Dec. 11.

Ashley R. Pederson, 17, 6479 Habitat Court, Gurnee, in-state warrant, Dec. 10.

Thomas Ray Linkous, 23, 1680 Kayla Lane, Waukegan, in-state warrant, Dec. 10.

Suspended license

Roosevelt Jr. Walker, 32, 1720 Golf Road, Waukegan, driving with a suspended license, driving without insurance, Dec. 11.

Driving without a license

Alfonso Ocampo-Giles, 21, 313 Oak St., Waukegan, driving without a license, Dec. 10.

Retail theft

Lisa M. Christ, 33, 3404 Clover Lane, Zion, retail theft, Dec. 10.

Local family celebrates Christmas, Hanukkah

By HELEN MANSFIELD
hmansfield@nwnewsgroup.com

Ericka and Joseph Schwenk, of Gurnee, have been married for 20 years. Originally from New York, the pair create a holiday storybook tale; a "nice Jewish girl" met a "nice Catholic boy," they married and had four beautiful children.

Since the beginning of their marriage, Ericka said the family home has always had a Christmas tree and a Menorah. Even though Ericka said she grew up in a predominantly Jewish community, she remembers elements of Christmas in her own home.

"My mother was [Jewish] orthodox, but she used to hang stockings by our chimney," Ericka said. And, she remembers those trinkets as some of the best she got, including oranges, or a little doll.

As the Schwenk children Joey, 18; Emille, 16; Danny, 14; and Annie, 11; have gotten older, both Hanukkah and Christmas have taken on different elements.

"We do Hanukkah every night, but not gifts," Ericka said.

The Schwenks try to break

up the eight nights. Ericka said the children will give gifts to each other, on another night they will make donations to Toys for Tots, on another night they get gifts from other family members, and so on.

Danny said he enjoys celebrating both. Danny had a Bar Mitzvah about the same age his own father served as an alter boy, back when Catholic mass was performed in Latin.

"Last year, [Danny] put the Hanukkah presents under the tree," Ericka said with a laugh.

For the Schwenks, Christmas is not so much about "Christ," but rather family, they said.

Ericka said she sees that Hanukkah can become as commercial as Christmas, depending on the age of the children.

"As they get older, I don't try to compete anymore," she said.

As a parent who teaches fifth grade religious education at Am Echod, Ericka understands that not all the congregates share her thoughts on Christmas.

"Christmas is fun, it's snow, it's all of it," Ericka said. "I bought into it."

>> LibraryDigest

The Antioch Public Library District is at 757 Main Street in Antioch. For more information on the programs below, call 847-395-0874, or go to www.antiochdistrictlibrary.org.

All activities are subject to change.

Two performances for children

At 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 12, Dave Herzog's Marionettes Christmas Capers for children ages 3 and older will perform. Santa Claus is coming to town,

and he's bringing a whole sleigh full of holiday cheer with him.

Join the fun with Frosty Snowman, Termites the Singing Christmas Tree, and many more wonderful winter characters as they ring in the holidays with their own brand of Christmas magic.

You've got games

From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 18, board games and card games will be available to play. Participants are invited to bring their favorite games as well.

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Illinois Center, 233 N. Michigan Ave.

Crystal Lake (815) 477-1444
815 Cog Circle (in front of Menards)

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1398 Route 12 (in front of Menards)

Fox River Grove (847) 516-6441
726 Northwest Hwy. (Next to Panera)

McHenry (815) 385-6748
2447 N. Richmond Rd. (in front of Home Depot)

Oakbrook Terrace (630) 495-0319
17 West 631 Roosevelt Rd. (at Summit)

Round Lake Beach (847) 740-8299
524 Rollins Rd. (next to Buffalo Wild Wings)

Schaumburg (847) 310-1397
1245 N. Roselle (corner of Golf & Roselle Rds.)

Streamwood (630) 540-2434
937 W. Irving Park Rd. (at Rt. 59)

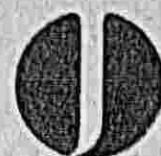
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>> LocalDeaths

Edith M. Babe Corey, 74, Antioch
Robert Francis Albert Vidone, 68, Chicago
Charles F. Giordano, 64, Waupaca, Wis.

Margaret H. Franks, 66, Kansasville, Wis.
Estelle Kurth Goodykoontz, 100, Genoa City, Wis.
Josephine M. Pawlak Hines, 82, Fox Lake

David W. Jones, 82, Fox Lake
Dominic Wisz, 87, Libertyville

OBITUARIES ON PAGE 8A

>> InBrief

Park Association honors Waukegan Park District

The 2006 Halloweenfest, hosted by the Waukegan Park District, was recently chosen as the Illinois Park and Recreation Association's Outstanding Program of the Year, according to a release.

This award recognizes public agencies for their exceptional achievement in the development of programs and special events. The park district scored the highest among those entries submitted in its division and category from across the state of Illinois.

Halloweenfest is presented by the Waukegan Park District, Great Lakes Credit Union and the City of Waukegan, along with the support of many local businesses and community volunteers.

The event includes a haunted house with six spine tingling rooms of fear, a haunted walk, the enchanted walk for children ages 3 to 8, magic shows, children's games and crafts that offer challenge and prizes and a fortune teller.

-Local reports

Laughing for wellness topic at support group

Colleen Caron, certified laughter therapist, will present "Laughing Your Way to Wellness" at the next Caregiver Educational Support Group meeting.

The meeting will be from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19, at the Warren Township Senior Center, 17801 W. Washington St. in Gurnee.

Sponsored by the Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center, the meeting is free and any caregiver may attend the meeting.

Caron will discuss how laughter can be one of the many strategies caregivers can employ to stay healthy.

Laughing increases blood pressure, makes your heart beat faster and increases blood oxygen levels, according to a release from the health department.

Caron works as an Adult Older Services Coordinator at Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital in Hoffman Estates. Caron presents on a variety of topics related to mental health and aging for staff and community groups.

For more information, call Sharon Roberts, the Health Department's gerontologist, at 847-377-8097.

-Local reports

Edward Jones

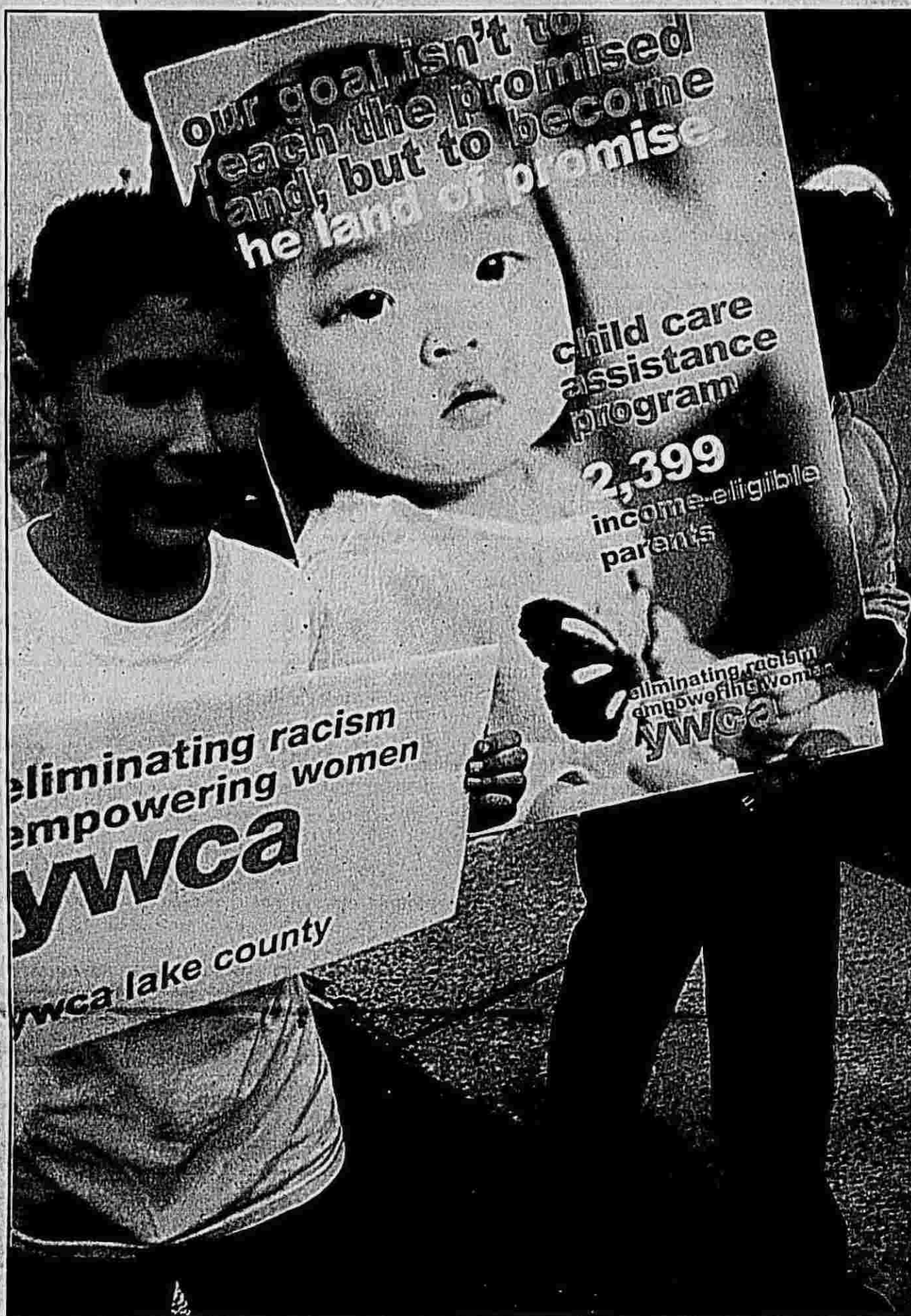
Patrick Uding, a financial adviser with Edward Jones financial services firm, and Sr. Branch Office Administrator Kristin Cassidy are taking advantage of new financial assessment tools to better serve clients in Grayslake. For more information, call 847-223-1908. The Edward Jones office is at 10 N. Lake St. Suite 113 in Grayslake.

-Local reports

YWCA stays versatile

Lake County organization finds different ways to help women

By YADIRA SANCHEZ OLSON
ysanchez@nwnewsgroup.com



Ten-year-olds Adrian Monero (left), of Waukegan, and Ezria Petearb, of Chicago, walk for peace outside the Belvidere Mall in Waukegan for the Week Without Violence sponsored by the YWCA. The YWCA offers many programs to help women and children in need of assistance.

In a community, there are many groups and organizations that work at making that community a better, safer, more enriched place to live.

Some organizations focus on one particular problem. And others extend into different subgroups that in the end have the same goal in mind. One such group in Lake County is the nonprofit organization, the YWCA. With 85 years of experience in supporting its community, the group serves 22,000 residents a year.

According to the YWCA's Web site, the first YWCA was founded in London in 1855, during the Industrial Revolution. Women who wanted a place where they could gather and share safe housing and skill developments with other women decided to open the Young Women's Christian Association.

And while their roots are based in Christianity, the YWCA aids women of all faiths and walks of life.

"We happen to target low-income women and women of color but we can help and educate any woman in this county," said Elizabeth Forbrich, executive director of the YWCA, Lake County. "We are sustained by the richness of many beliefs and values as is written in our mission statement."

In 1922, the YWCA Lake County opened in Waukegan and housed 30 young women. And today the YWCA has a variety of programs that can help all Lake County women.

"Bridging gaps on the way to self-sufficiency," is what Forbrich said they do on a daily basis.

They do this through programs such as ENCOREplus; a health program that gives women access to education and services regarding breast and cervical cancer. Assistance also is provided through their child care programs, which help children with school homework and provides them with before and after school meals.

"Our staff is 50 percent bilingual and most of the YWCA's programs are in Spanish as well as English," said Callie Melton, Hallmark Program Outreach Coordinator/Public Relations.

YWCA series

For five weeks, the Lake County Journals will examine the YWCA Lake County and some of the programs it offers. Below is a look at the series in its entirety.

- Dec. 13: Getting to know the YWCA: An overview of the organization.
- Dec. 20: Women's health: A look at the many ways the YWCA Lake County helps with women's health issues.
- Dec. 27: Child care: A look at child care programs provided to area parents and guardians through the YWCA.
- Jan. 3: Girls on the move: The Lake County Journals examines a YWCA program that teaches leadership to high school girls.
- Jan. 10: Financial literacy: A look at a program that helps women be self-sufficient through their own financial education.

>> Grayslake

Lake County Fairgrounds enters new era

Ground broken at former Titus Farm

By STEVE PETERSON
speterson@nwnewsgroup.com

GRAYSLAKE - When crowds gather at the new Lake County Fairgrounds, people likely will be more worried about the heat index than the snow total.

But the Lake County Fair Association's board of directors and village of Grayslake officials did have to worry about the snow as they braved the wind, snow and mud recently to start a new era in fair history.

Both groups hope the Lake County Fair's new site at the former Titus farm on Peterson Road will be ready next July.

There are back-up plans to use the old fairgrounds site at routes 45 and

120 if the Peterson Road site is not ready.

"It will be a new and modern Fair site," Fair Association President Dave DeYoung said. "All 10 buildings will have an agricultural look. Getting it built is the biggest challenge."

The site is 159 acres and was annexed to be part of Grayslake village limits.

The site can host about 150,000 people. Officials also hope that the

site will be used for events year-round. Midlothian Road will be extended for the main access.

DeYoung said he hopes that the site can be developed for less than the \$17 million budget.

Grayslake Village President Tim Perry said the work on the site is three years in the making.

Plans are for a shopping center to be built at the former Lake County Fairgrounds site. A traffic study is the next step in that process.

INSIDE LAKE COUNTY



John S. Matijevich

>> SeeingItThrough

A new generation of veterans are getting the same poor treatment that many generations already have experienced, columnist John Matijevich says. From being turned away from VA hospitals to inaccurate diagnoses, our veterans are not receiving the proper treatment and respect they have earned for their service.

PAGE 11A

>> SnapShot

This week's question

"What holiday message do you have for the troops?"

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11A

>> PartyLines

Bean shows her support

U.S. Rep. Melissa Bean, D-Barrington, recently announced her support for the Energy Independence and Security Act. Meanwhile State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulas is encouraging residents to open a Bright Start or Bright Directions account before January.

PAGE 11A

>> OurView

Bush makes the right move

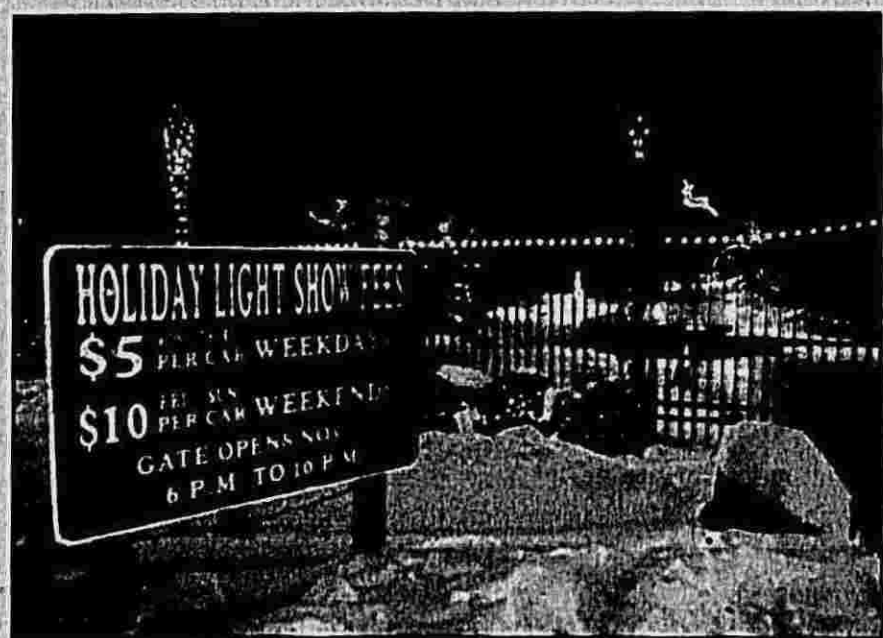
President Bush's answer to the foreclosure mess is fair assessment.

PAGE 11A

>> SketchView



That holiday twinkle



Annie Christie • achristie@nwnewsgroup.com

Cars drive thru Vernon Hills' Holiday Light Show. The light show is through Jan. 5 on the Cuneo Museum grounds. Hours are from 6 to 10 p.m. Cost for this event is \$5 a car Monday through Thursday and \$10 a car Friday through Sunday.

EDITH M. 'BABE' COREY

Born: Aug. 28, 1933
Died: Dec. 3, 2007
Enjoyed sewing, crocheting, crafts, and being with her family

ANTIOCH – Edith M. "Babe" Corey, age 74, of Antioch, passed away Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, at Northern Illinois Medical Center in McHenry. She was born Aug. 28, 1933, the daughter of the late Raymond E. and Alvina (Tehert) Willett. On May 16, 1960, she married William Corey in Antioch, who preceded her in death on Dec. 27, 2002.

Survivors include four children, Linda (Ed) Moore of Mesa, Ariz., Lori Corey of Waterford, Wis., William Corey of Burlington, Wis., and Kevin (Tuesday) Corey of Antioch; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a sister; two brothers; a god-daughter, Cindy Kuechle of Antioch; and many nieces, nephews and friends. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her five siblings.

The funeral was at 1 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Strang Funeral Home of Antioch. Interment followed in Hillside Cemetery in Antioch. Visitation was from noon until the time of services Dec. 7 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the American Cancer Society in her memory. Please sign the guestbook for Babe at www.strangfh.com. Please also sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

ROBERT FRANCIS ALBERT VIDONE

Died: Dec. 6, 2007
Was inducted into the Rockabilly Hall of Fame

CHICAGO – Robert Francis Albert Vidone, age 68, formerly of Chicago, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2007, at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston. Robert was born and raised in Greenwich, Conn. He formed his first band, Bob Vidone and the Rhythm Rockers in 1957. They changed their name to Robby and the Troubadours. They had a longstanding residency at Chicago's Rumpus Room.

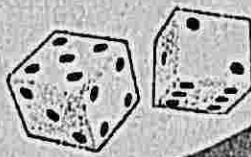
He leaves behind to cherish his memory two daughters, Gidget Vidone Taylor (Kurt Leable) of Wadsworth, Robin Vidone (Patrick) O'Donnell of Lindenhurst; a granddaughter, former wife, Mary Vidone of Round Lake Park; his brother; his nieces and nephews; and his many friends, including Kal Fagan of Miami. He was preceded in death by his parents, Romeo and Albertina Donatelli Vidone of Greenwich, Conn.

All services were private. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Strang Funeral Chapel & Crematorium in Grayslake. For information, log on to www.strangfuneral.org. Please also sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

See OBITUARIES, page 9A



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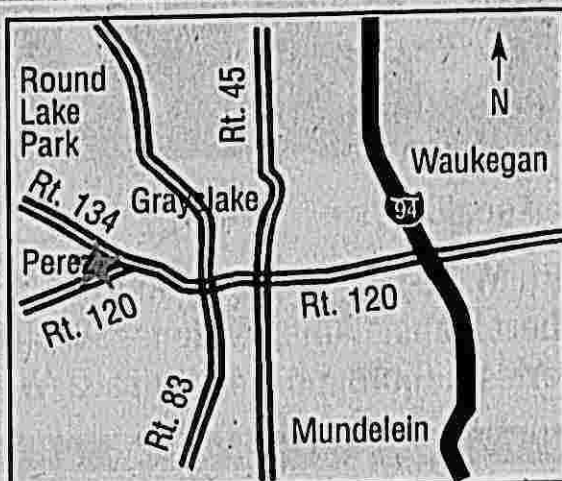
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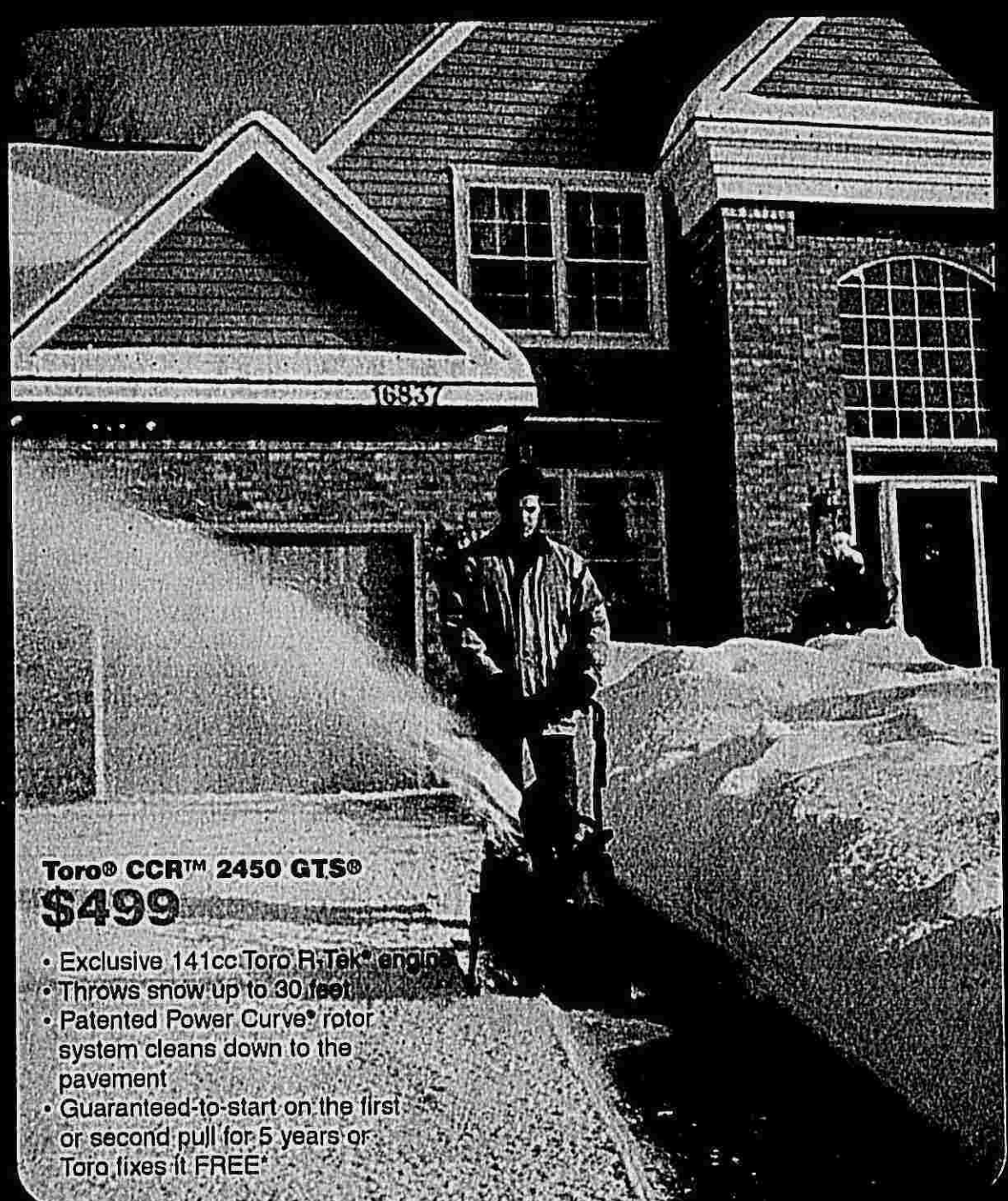
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• OBITUARIES

Continued from 8A

CHARLES F. GIORDANOBorn: May 5, 1943
Died: Dec. 2, 2007

Enjoyed gardening, hunting, listening to old music

WAUPACA, WIS. — Charles F. Giordano, age 64, of Waupaca, Wis., passed away Sunday, Dec. 2, 2007, at Riverside Medical Center. Chuck was born in Chicago on May 5, 1943, the son of the late Sam and Laura (Sherman) Giordano. On Oct. 31, 1985, he married Rose (Talbot) Giordano in Antioch.

Chuck enjoyed gardening, hunting, listening to old music and spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemarie Giordano, of Waupaca; children, Charles Giordano, Laura Grady of Arizona, Cathy Anderson of Antioch, Anthony Giordano of Antioch; stepchildren, Debra (John) Johnson of Joliet, Diana (Charles) Gibbons of Monee, Helen (Donald) Zubor of Bristol, Wis., Steven (Gina) Walezak of Waukegan; sisters, Rose (Dillany) Harville of Alabama, Agnes (Charles) Gleason, Susan (James) Smith of Antioch. He is also survived by eight grandchildren. Charles was preceded in death by a brother, Frank Blamonte.

The memorial service was at noon, Dec. 5, at Holly Funeral Home in Waupaca, with Mr. Thomas Masaros officiating. Visitation was from 11 a.m. to noon Dec. 5 at the Holly Funeral Home in Waupaca. Please sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

MARGARET H. FRANKSBorn: May 31, 1941
Died: Dec. 4, 2007

Enjoyed crocheting, fishing, cooking, and writing poetry

KANSASVILLE, WIS. — Margaret H. Franks, age 66, of Kansasville, Wis., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007, at her home. She was born May 31, 1941, in Freeport, the daughter of the late Wayne and Elizabeth (Brocar) Hoffman. Margaret had lived in the Antioch area for more than 30 years before moving to Kansasville in 2001. She was a member of the Linden-Villa Baptist Church in Lindenhurst.

Margaret worked as a waitress at the Beehive Restaurant in Antioch for several years and other area restaurants. Her interests included crocheting, fishing, cooking, playing cards and writing poetry. On Oct. 19, 1963, she married Ernest "Ernie" Franks in Antioch. Survivors include her husband of 44 years, Ernie; two daughters, Kimberly (Gary) Schindel of Trevor, Wis., and Melissa (Jeff Thrasher) Stobaugh of Janesville, Wis.; seven grandchildren, Child of the Heart Nikki, Ivy, and Brenna Franks, Jared Stobaugh, Lauren, Kyle, and Brad Thrasher; two brothers, Michael Hoffman of Union Grove, Wis., and Mark Hoffman of Beaver Dam, Wis.; and three sisters, Patricia Wells of Round Lake, Deborah (Jesse) Ortega of Genoa City, Wis., and Susan Onstad of Beaver Dam.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Dec. 8 at the Strang Funeral Home of Antioch, 1055 Main St. (Route 83), with Pastor Bob Parikh, officiating. Interment was in Hosmer Cemetery, Bristol, Wis. Visitation was from 4 to 8 p.m. Dec. 8 at the funeral home. Please

sign the guestbook at www.strangfh.com. Please also sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

ESTELLE KURTH GOODYKOONTZBorn: Aug. 7, 1907
Died: Dec. 7, 2007

At age 100 she enjoyed reading, sewing, knitting, playing bridge

GENOA CITY, WIS. — Estelle Kurth Goodykoontz, 100, of Genoa City, Wis., and formerly of Lindenhurst, and Pittsburgh, died Dec. 7, 2007, at Burr Oak Manor in Genoa City, Wis. She was born Aug. 7, 1907, in Turtle Creek, Pa., and later made her home in Pittsburgh after her marriage on June 6, 1931, to Horace S. Goodykoontz of Waukon, Iowa. Mrs. Goodykoontz worked as a secretary for many years at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Education. She was an active member of the 1st Baptist Church of Pittsburgh. Her interests included bridge, reading, sewing, knitting, homemaking and entertaining family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Horace; three brothers, Harry, George and William; and a sister, Eleanor (Herb) Wilkenson.

Survivors include a daughter, Lela (Clarence) Hanson of Lake Villa; granddaughter, Shannon (Dean) Homan of Lake Villa; two great-grandsons, Dean and Cory Homan; a sister, Alice (Wilbur) Wetzel of Pittsburgh; sister-in-law, Ann (George) Kurth of Turtle Creek, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be private and interment will be in Oakland Cemetery, Waukon,

Iowa. Memorials to her memory may be made to the First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh (www.first-baptist-pittsburgh.org).

Arrangements were entrusted to the Strang Funeral Home of Antioch. Please sign the guestbook at www.strangfh.com. Please also sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

JOSEPHINE M. PAWLAK HINESBorn: Aug. 8, 1925
Died: Dec. 3, 2007

Was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Spring Grove

FOX LAKE — Josephine M. Pawlak Hines, age 82, of Leisure Village in Fox Lake for the past 14 years, died Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, at home. She was born Aug. 8, 1925, to John and Josephine (nee Klein) and was united in marriage to James H. Hines. The couple had attended St. Peter's Catholic Church in Spring Grove.

Survivors include her children, Jack (Pam) Hines of Bensenville, Jeffrey (Jeanne) Hines of Antioch, Patricia (John) Hartigan of Chicago, Kathleen ("Kitty") (James) Longfield of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Dorothy Cholinski of Phoenix and Therese Blaine of Bradenton, Fla. She was preceded in death by her husband, James H. Hines; and by her parents.

The Catholic Memorial Mass was celebrated 10 a.m. Dec. 12 at St. Peter's Catholic Church, 2206 Main St., in Spring Grove. Interment followed the Mass in the church cemetery. Memorials for the Alzheimer's and related dis-

eases, 4709 Golf Rd., Suite 1015 Skokie, IL 60076, will be appreciated by the family. Please sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

DAVID W. JONESBorn: July 12, 1925
Died: Dec. 6, 2007

Was a member of the Black Horse Troop and Shriners

FOX LAKE — David W. Jones, age 82, of Spring Grove and recently of Fox Lake, passed away peacefully, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007, at Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington. David was born in Chicago to the late Delbert and Frances Jones. He graduated from Schurz High School and joined the U.S. Navy and served during World War II. He joined the Chicago Fire Department and was commander of the bomb squad while it was a part of the fire department. David was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Ginger McNamara Jones and his son, David T. Jones.

He is survived by his wife, Heidi Bayless Jones; his son, Rick (Joy) Jones of Arvada, Colo., and his three daughters, Susan (Lonney) of Golden, Colo., Carol (Dennis) of Highlands Ranch, Colo., Mary Jo (Chuck) of Ingleside; his stepchildren, Melody Bayless of Springfield, Mo., Joseph Bayless of Vancleave, Miss., Michelle (Dennis) Malone of Salem, Wis., Jay Bayless of Cuba, Mo.; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his brother, his sister; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Memorial services will be conducted Dec. 15 at Community Church of the Holy Spirit, 25291 W. Lehmann Blvd. (a block south of Route 132 on Route 59), Lake Villa. Visitation will be from 2:30 p.m. until the time of service at 3 p.m. at the church. In lieu of flowers family would appreciate memorials for the Open Arms Mission. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Strang Funeral Chapel & Crematorium, 410 E. Belvidere Road, Grayslake. Interment will be private. For funeral information visit www.strangfuneral.org. Please also sign the Guest Book at

www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.**CECILIA A. 'SNOOZIE' BRITZ**

Died: Dec. 5, 2007

Worked in bookkeeping for the Lake County School District for 20 years

The memorial Mass was held for Cecilia A. "Snoozie" Britz at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2007, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in DeLand, Fla., with Father Tom Connery celebrating. Born in Chicago, Cecilia was a child of the Depression and World War II, born into an affluent family but as with most families lost much in the stock market crash. She was married at the age of 18 and had three sons in four years. The oldest son was 4 years and the others in diapers when Cecilia was widowed at the age of 23. She met Ben Britz and they had their two daughters to add to the family and were married 51 years. She moved to DeLand, Fla., from Fox Lake, in 1976.

Surviving are her two daughters, Mary Koenig and Bernadette Britz-Parker of DeLand; and sons, Robert and Dennis McNally of DeLand, and Thomas McNally of Appleton, Wis. Also

surviving are 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She worked in bookkeeping for the Lake County Illinois School District for 20 years as treasurer for five schools in that district. In addition than being a wonderful mother, she loved to visit Las Vegas with friends and family.

Cecilia "Snoozie" Britz died peacefully in her home on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007, surrounded by her loving family and her caregiver and close friend Nancy Garden. In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations to be made in her memory to The House Next Door, 804 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand, FL 32720 or to Casa di Famiglia, 217 N. Stone St., DeLand, FL 32720. Lankford Funeral Home is in charge of her arrangements. Please also sign the Guest Book at www.lakecountyjournals.com/obits.

See OBITUARIES, page 10A



Cecilia Britz

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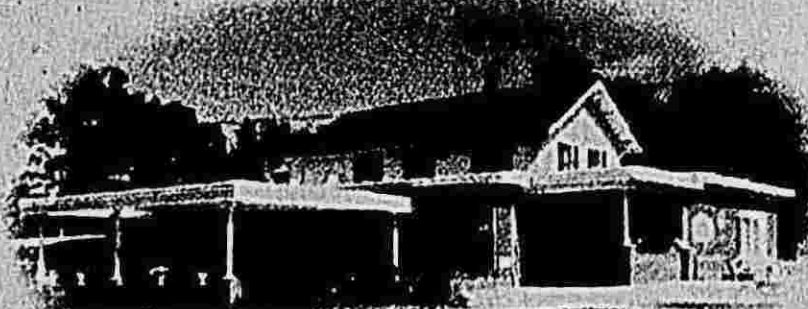
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• OBITUARIES

Continued from 9A

DOMINIC WISZ

Died: Dec. 7, 2007

He had lain in state at St. Joseph Home for the Elderly, Palatine and Marytown, Libertyville

LIBERTYVILLE — Fr. Dominic Wisz, OFM, Conv., age 87, died Dec. 7, 2007.

Dear son of the late, Joseph and Stephanie (Gabyloski); dear brother of the late Sister Mary Medarde, late John (Louise), late Helen, Stanley and Theresa; uncle to Mary Lou (Tom) Prouty, Fran (Don) Niemiec and John (Barb); great and great-great uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 10 at St. Joseph Home for the Elderly in Palatine, and from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Marytown in Libertyville. On Dec. 11, Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m. at Marytown in Libertyville.

Interment was at St. Hedwig Cemetery and Mausoleum in Dearborn Heights, Mich. Please sign the Guest Book at www.lake-countyjournals.com/obits.**JOSEPH CANZONERI**

Born: May 4, 1924

Died: Dec. 7, 2007

Was a Naval Aviator (VF 19) serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II

LONG GROVE — Joseph Canzoneri, age 83, of Long Grove, passed away suddenly Friday, Dec. 7, 2007, at his home. He was born May 4, 1924, in Chicago. After graduation, Joe enlisted in the U.S. Navy Flight Training Program and became a naval aviator (VF 19) serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Surviving are three children, John (Diana) Canzoneri of Glenview, Joanne Jesenovec of Libertyville and Joseph (Jennifer) Canzoneri of Mundelein; seven grandchildren; his sister; nieces; great-nephews and niece.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Antonina Canzoneri; and by his wife, Dorothy, on March 17, 2002.

Prayers began at 10:15 a.m. Dec. 12 at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville and services continued to Santa Maria del Popolo Church (main church) in Mundelein

for a funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Entombment was at Ascension Cemetery in Libertyville. Visitation was from 4 to 9 p.m. Dec. 11 at the funeral home. Memorial contributions to the Disabled American Veterans would be appreciated. Please sign the Guest Book at www.lake-countyjournals.com/obits.**JOHN J. ZNALEZNIK**

Born: Jan. 22, 1972

Died: Dec. 4, 2007

Was the owner of Infinum Technologies Corp. of Grayslake

GRAYSLAKE — John J. Znaleznik Jr., age 35, of Grayslake, passed away suddenly Dec. 4, 2007, at his home. He was born Jan. 22, 1972, in Waukegan.

Johnny was the cherished son of Patricia Marie Henfler of Kenosha, Wis., and John J. Znaleznik Sr., of Grayslake; brother of Tim G. Znaleznik of Grayslake and Joseph M. Znaleznik of Des Plaines; and nephew to many aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents John and Dorothy Znaleznik, and Herbert and Bernice Henfler; and twin daughters, Makaela and Caitlin Znaleznik.

The Memorial gathering will be at noon Saturday, Dec. 15, until the time of services at 1 p.m. at the Symonds Lakes Funeral Home & Crematory in Grayslake.

Please sign the Guest Book at www.lake-countyjournals.com/obits.**HELEN T. SPROW**

Died: Dec. 6, 2007

Her passion was riding and jumping horses

The memorial service for Helen T. Sprow, 68, will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Wauconda Federated Church.

Born in Chicago, she passed away Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007. Helen had been spending her winters in Oxford, Fla. since 1992.

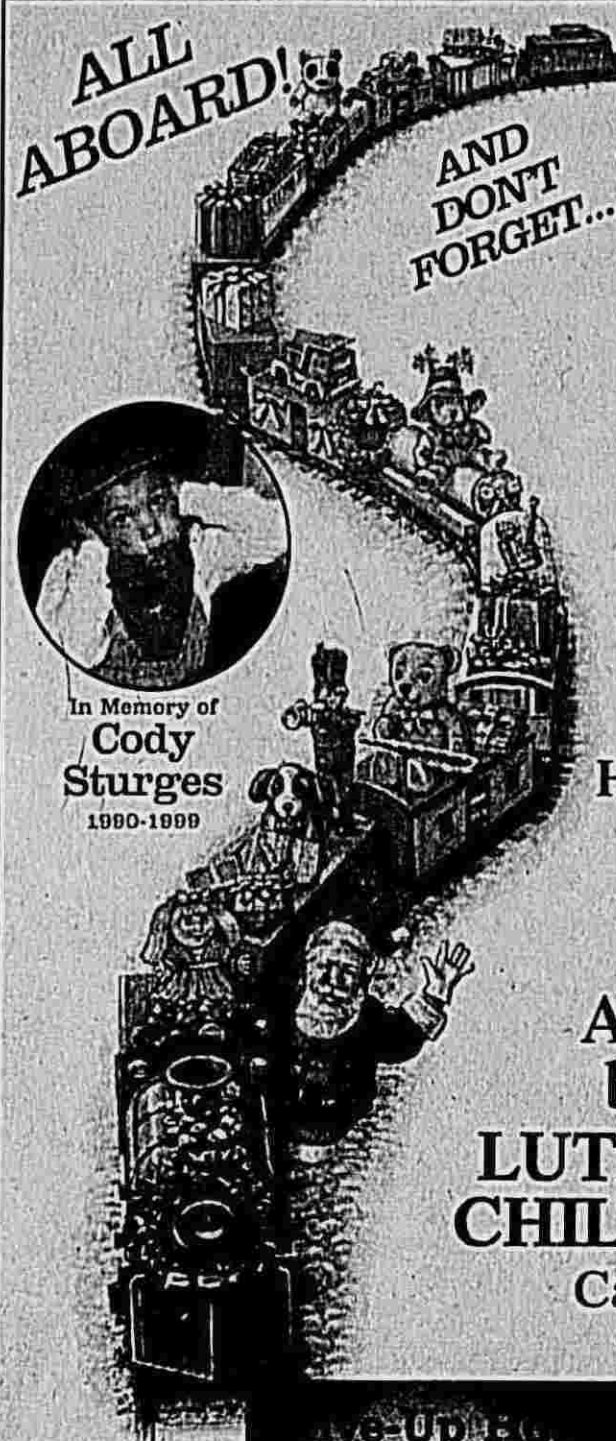
She was a member of Wauconda Federated Church. Her passion was riding and jumping horses, but she also loved to read and spend summers in Eagle River, Wis.

She was a career waitress and loved every minute of it. She was a people person.

She is survived by her sons, Robert J. Sprow Jr., of Island Lake, Timothy M. and Darren R. Sprow, of Wauconda, and Kevin A. Sprow, of Harvard. She also is survived by her twin sister, Edith Finlayson, of Oxford, Fla.; and brothers, Theodore Tremont of Wauconda, Thomas Tremont of Glen Ellyn, and William Tremont of Cary. She also had nine grandchildren.

Please sign the Guest Book at www.lake-countyjournals.com/obits.**NAPRAPATH CARE**WORK OR PLAY TOO HARD...
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With Us

**St. Andrew Episcopal Church**
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 4 pm Blue Christmas
Sunday, December 23
 10 am service Lessons and Carols
 • New this year •
 New Year's Eve -
 5 pm Eucharist
 Pray Before You Party
All Are Welcome!
 31 Park Ave. Grayslake
 847-223-2310

Christmas Eve Services
 5 pm - Family Service with Pageant
 10 pm - Choral Eucharist
Christmas Morning
 9 am

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran (WELS) Church
 420 N. Greenwood Dr.
 Round Lake Park, IL 60046
 847-546-4685
www.stpaulwels.org
 Pastor Robert Meiselwitz
 Advent Service, Wed. Dec. 19 7 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Children's and Candlelight Service 7 p.m.
 Christmas Sunday Services 9 a.m.
 Christmas Day Celebration 10 a.m.

Community Church of the Holy Spirit
 25291 W. Lehmann Blvd.
 Lake Villa, IL 60046
www.myholyspirit.org • 847-215-3000
Advent Liturgy
 11:00 AM on December 2, 9, 16, 23
December 24th Christmas Eve 4:00 PM
 Presentation of the Living Nativity with Holy Communion
December 25th Christmas Day
 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy
December 30th
 11:00 AM Childrens Liturgy

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
 135 S. Milwaukee Ave. (Rte 83)
 Lake Villa, IL 60064
 847-356-7915

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule
 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. & Midnight
 (carols at 11:30 p.m.)

Christmas Mass Schedule
 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

"What gift can I bring the newborn King?"

St. John Lutheran Church
 405 W. State Road 176, Island Lake
Holiday Worship Schedule
 Dec. 23, Children's Christmas Service 5 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10 p.m.
 Christmas Morning Festival Service 10 a.m.
 Sunday, Dec. 30, Worship Service 9 a.m.
 New Year's Eve Communion Service ... 7:30 p.m.

847-526-7614

gospel4all@yahoo.com • www.saintjohnlutheran.com
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www.clcbc.com

 Senior Pastor Associate Pastor
 Kerry Bauman John Engberg

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
 8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:00 am

**Community Protestant Church,
 United Church of Christ**
Christmas Holiday Services
 Christmas Cantata
 Sunday, Dec. 23, 9:30 a.m.
Christmas Eve Services
 Monday, Dec. 24
 Family Service 7 p.m.
 Candlelight Vigil 11 p.m.

 418 N. Prairie Avenue, Mundelein
 (corner of Hawley and Prairie) 847-566-4000

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 Grayslake, IL 60030
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 Fax: 847 223-7561

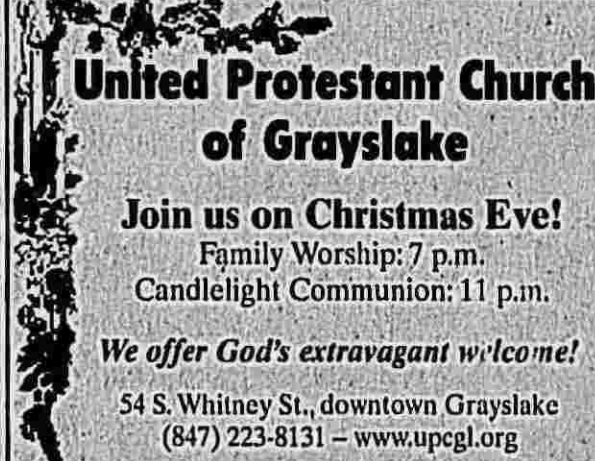
Christmas Eve Service
 6:00 pm Dec. 24

**United Protestant Church
 of Grayslake**

 Join us on Christmas Eve!
 Family Worship: 7 p.m.

Candlelight Communion: 11 p.m.

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 (847) 223-8131 - www.upcgl.org

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 our Savior's Birth!

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 Gurnee IL 60031
 847-244-9647
 Rev. Lee Clark

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
 7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Holy Communion
 10:00 a.m.
www.bethellutherangurnee.org
**Prairie Circle Unitarian
 Universalist Congregation**
December 16th Service
 Winter Solstice
 9:15 AM

A special service with readings, meditation and music from different writers and traditions for the Winter Solstice. This service offers a little breather to reflect and re-engage with ourselves during a very busy time of year.

 Services led by Rev. Clare Butterfield, Director of Faith in Place
 Byron Colby Barn, 1561 Jones Point Road, Grayslake
 For directions, call (847) 604-1908 or visit the website: www.prairiecircle.org
December 24th Service
 Christmas Eve
 4:00 PM

A Christmas Eve candlelight service that will begin at 4 p.m. and includes traditional carols, music and readings.

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 7 PM

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 Lutheran
 Church**
SUNDAY, DEC. 16
 The Lighting of the
 Shepherd/Joy Candle

Third Sunday In Advent
 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
 Worship Services

 Pastor David Lenz will preach
 on the theme: "Overcoming
 Christmas Disappointments,"
 centered on Matthew 11:2-11.
 Holy Communion will be
 celebrated and the Sunday School
 children invite you to a "Jesus
 Birthday Celebration" with songs
 and a birthday cake after
 the 10:00 a.m. Service.


>> OurView

Fighting the foreclosures

President Bush's plan to help save some homeowners with subprime mortgages is not a bailout. No federal money will be used. And the plan is voluntary - lenders and investors have to agree to freeze interest rates on loans. Some critics will claim that Bush's plan does not go far enough. Others will say it goes too far. But we think it's a reasonable plan.

People who have been making payments on time and who are about to have their adjustable-rate mortgage reset to higher interest rates might need some help. Freezing the rates for five years seems like a reasonable approach for lenders and homeowners who have found themselves on the bubble.

The Bush plan will fall short of manipulating the market. And it does not bail out people who have bought homes they could not afford, or individuals who engaged in reckless real-estate speculation. Nor should it.

The fact is, even with Bush's plan, the housing market is likely to get much worse before it gets any better. The Mortgage Association reported this week that 5.59 percent of borrowers are

at least 30 days late on a payment. And a record 1.26 percent of borrowers are 90-plus days late.

The Bush plan will not help those people. The New York Times reported that some experts estimated that of the 1.8 million subprime borrowers who are expected to see their interest rate jump, only 360,000 would qualify for the five-year freeze.

The continued mortgage meltdown could drag the economy into recession. But the government should not manipulate the housing market. Let's face it: If you're trying to sell a home right now, the market isn't helping.

But if you're shopping to buy a home, the market is in your favor. And people who have been responsible with their money, who did not buy a home they could not afford, who have been waiting for the market to turn, should not be punished.

Low interest rates and loan-happy lenders inflated the prices of homes for years. The bubble had to burst. The Bush plan will help some. But, unfortunately, there still are hard times ahead for many. This correction, though painful, ultimately was inevitable.

>> SketchView



>> YourView

Hainesville's own police department?

To the editor:
At a Special Meeting of the Hainesville Village Board Dec. 1, our mayor [Hainesville Village Board President Ted Mueller] emphatically stated, "We will have our own police cars on the street by Feb. 10," when our police contract with Round Lake Park expires.

We, who the village president labeled "opponents," are not necessarily objecting to having our own police force.

However, before such a major decision is reached, and we rush headlong into unknown territory with expensive, long-lasting financial consequences for the village taxpayers, shouldn't we know costs of salary, equipment, insurance, pensions, benefits and physical facilities?

Even if, after a complete study, it is determined that having our own police department is warranted, is it prudent to try and go from zero to a full blown police force in only 60 days?

It might be prudent to contract with the Lake County Sheriff's

Department, even on a short term basis, while the board investigates all the ramifications of creating our own police department.

Why have Volo, Long Grove, North Barrington, Lake Barrington, and Beach Park, communities about the size of Hainesville or larger, maintained contracts with Lake County Sheriff's Department for years?

Do they know something we haven't learned yet?

Everyone wishes to have our own police department, but is that the right decision for us?

Georgeann Duberstein
Hainesville

Help families in need

To the editor:

The holiday season can be an especially difficult time for families in need, making charitable giving all the more important during this time of the year.

Organizations such as Kids Hope United need support from the community in order to make positive changes in the lives of the children and families they serve.

Letters to the editor

We welcome original letters on public issues. Letters must include the author's full name, address and day and evening telephone numbers.

Keep letters short: no more than 300 words.

All letters are subject to editing for length and content.

Go online:

To read more letters to the editor log onto LakeCountyJournals.com

Submit letters by:

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Mail: Lake County Journals

To the Editor

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Fax: (847) 223-8810

Drop-off: 34121 N. U.S. Highway 45, Suite 224, Grayslake

>> PartyLines

Bean supports energy bill

U.S. Rep. Melissa Bean, D-Barrington, released a statement recently in anticipation of her vote to support the Energy Independence and Security Act (H.R. 6):

"This bill is critical to future generations," Bean said in the statement. "The Energy Independence and Security Act is important to my children and yours because it enhances our renewable fuel production goals and creates a more secure and sustainable future by moving us from an oil dependence requiring \$200 billion of oil imports per year to development of innovative, next-generation bio-fuels."

Bright future

Saving for college is always a good investment, but enrolling in one of Illinois' tax-advantaged college savings plans before the end of the year will reduce next April's tax bite, Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias said in a recent release.

Illinois residents who contribute to either of the state's 529 plans - Bright Start or Bright Directions - qualify for a state tax deduction. "Opening an account or adding on to one through a contribution before January can result in a lucrative tax deduction," according to a statement from Giannoulias, who is making an end-of-year push to alert Illinois residents of the programs' tax benefits.

Under Illinois law, state residents

can deduct contributions to Bright Start and Bright Directions up to \$10,000 or \$20,000 for married couples filing joint tax returns.

Contributions to Bright Start and Bright Directions are subtracted from each taxpayer's adjusted gross income on Illinois tax returns. For example, if your adjusted gross income is \$45,000 and you contribute \$5,000 a year into a 529 plan, your taxable income in Illinois would amount to \$40,000. Based on Illinois' 3 percent state income tax rate and the \$5,000 contribution to a 529 plan, you would receive a \$150 refund from the state next spring, according to the release.

A contribution to a college savings plan also makes perfect sense as a gift around the holidays, Giannoulias said.

Bright Start is a \$2.3 billion savings plan with nearly 150,000 accounts, according to the release. To learn more, visit www.bright-startsavings.com or call 877-432-7444.

Bright Directions is Illinois' financial adviser-sold 529 account plan, which boasts \$287 million invested for nearly 26,000 account holders, according to the release. To learn more visit www.brightdirections.com or call 866-722-7283.

Kirk sets aside funds for nonprofit

U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, R-Highland Park, presented a \$700,000 check to the Youth Conservation Corps in Waukegan Dec. 10.

The event took place at the Youth Conservation Corps' Habitat for Humanity site, Carter Crossing.

Kirk helped secure the funds from the U.S. Department of Labor, according to a release.



Melissa Bean
U.S. Rep. from
Barrington

>> SeeingItThrough

Veterans deserve the best treatment, care

I remember, years ago, a call that I received from a young woman asking for help. She was crying. Her father was a friend of mine. He served admirably in military service during World War II.

She had made attempts to have her father admitted to the Veterans Hospital for emergency medical care. She couldn't believe that her father was denied admittance.

I couldn't believe it either. After I hung up the phone, I quickly called the Veteran Affairs office. They referred me to one of the "higher-ups." I asked how anyone sitting in a plush chair making a more than comfortable salary could close the door on a veteran in need who paid his debt to his country in time of war.

He promised that he'd do all that he could and get back to me.

He didn't get back to me; he never had a chance. The veteran's daughter called first. She was crying again. She called to thank me for my help.

The VA did admit her father. But, it was too late. Her father passed away.

I write this because now, many years later, things are the same, probably even worse. Our veterans, those who are in need of care from their service in Afghanistan and



John S.
Matijevich

Iraq are being denied the total treatment that they deserve and have earned.

USA Today recently filed a report that trashed an official Pentagon listing of 4,471 American troops who have sustained brain injuries in Afghanistan and Iraq. Data compiled after freedom of information documentation was obtained revealed that at least 20,000 more troops should have been designated with brain injuries.

This is a sad case, not only of government under-reporting the number of wounded troops, but of government's misfeasance making it more difficult for veterans to receive the adequate treatment and care.

These revelations have precipitated the call of Congressional hearings. Accounts have been reported that detail wounded veterans who return from Iraq only to wait for long periods of time in dilapidated warehouses to receive treatment for injuries. So many other doors that

have been closed to veterans.

I hope the Congressional hearings will stir enough concern that action will finally result to produce the budgets necessary to repay our veterans for their valiant service.

Wars never end. The effects of war last and last. We don't hear much of the fighting men and women who commit suicide. We don't hear of the many veterans who didn't get their jobs back after they return. We don't hear much about the many families that have been ripped apart because of the one, two, three, four, and five extended tours of duty that troops have had to serve away from their loved ones.

We don't hear that an inordinate number of homeless are veterans of war. We don't hear enough about the emotional and psychological after effects of war. Most of all, there is the eternal loss and price of those who paid the extreme cost of their lives during war. That can never be measured.

Now, in need of treatment and care, the country must do everything that it must to repay those veterans for their service to the country. They did their part; we must do ours.

• John Matijevich writes a weekly column for the Lake County Journals.

>> Snapshot

"What holiday message do you have for the troops?"



"I wish you were home. It breaks my heart they're not home."

Carly Brenton
Lake Villa



"I wish them to be safe and have a Merry Christmas."

Bili
Olaosebikan
Gurnee



"I wish you were home and with your families."

Judy
Ruiz
Waukegan



"Take care; be safe and come home soon."

Dennis
Haack
Richmond

Uncommon nurse.



Judy Amidei, RN, cares for people around-the-clock.

A lifelong member of the Highwood community and 28-year maternity nurse at Lake Forest Hospital, Judy Amidei is one of those rare people who makes a difference every single day. In 1995, she created and now serves on the board of Nuestro Center, a family resource center in Highwood that offers Latino families after-school programs, teen clubs, summer camps and general assistance with assimilation into American society while maintaining a sense of cultural pride. Judy also is a nurse at Oak Terrace School and volunteers at the annual Highwood Days 5K race.

To learn more about Lake Forest Hospital and our uncommon nurses, call 847.535.6171 or visit www.lfh.org.

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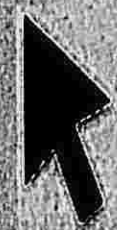
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>> CollegeofLakeCounty

CLC Honors Programs offers four sections this spring

High-achieving students looking for scholarship assistance are invited to apply for the College of Lake County Honors Program. For spring semester 2007, CLC will offer four class sections that are open only to students admitted to the Honors Program, and participants are eligible to receive in-district tuition scholarships to cover the cost of honors courses. The Honors Program provides students with opportunities to enrich their academic and community experiences by offering classes taught by some of the college's best faculty members.

"I recommend honors courses to all students who want to experience a higher level of learning in a competitive, challenging and sophisticated class setting," said Esra Ozbek, an Honors Program student since 2005.

The honors option will be offered in the following credit courses for spring semester: English Composition II "Chicago Voices" (ENG 122-650) will be taught by Mary Ann Bretzlauf; John Kupetz will teach American Decades (HUM 221-650); John Tenuto will teach Introduction to Sociology (SOC 121-650) and Kelly Cartwright will teach Environmental Biology (BIO 120-650).

An Honors Program applica-

tion may be downloaded at the following Web site: www.clcillinois.edu/credit/academics/honors.asp. Information about how to enroll at CLC while still in high school is available at www.clcillinois.edu/earlycollege. High school students must apply to the college as well as the Honors Program.

To apply for the Honors Program or for more information, contact Dr. Nick Schevera

at (847) 543-2959 or by e-mail at com409@clcillinois.edu. To apply for admission to CLC, call (847) 543-2061 or log on to www.clcillinois.edu/applic.htm

To register for classes by phone (after completing CLC's admission process), call (847) 223-1111. To register online, log on to www.clcillinois.edu/self-serv.htm. Or call (847) C-O-L-L-E-G-E. Spring classes begin Jan.

22.

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To purchase a CLC gift card,

come to one of the windows at the Cashier's Office, located in room A101 on the Grayslake Campus, 19351 W. Washington Street. The Cashier's Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday until Friday, Dec. 21. Cash, credit and debit cards and checks are accepted, and purchasers may choose the gift card amount they desire. For more information, call (847) 543-2085.

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Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Community High School District #117

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Community High School No. 117 for 2007 will be held on December 20, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. at Lakes Community High School District #117, 1600 Eagle Way, Lake Villa, IL 60046.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Jennifer Nolde, Business Manager, 1625 Deep Lake Road, Lake Villa, IL 60046, (847) 838-7180.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2006 were \$26,626,420.32.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2007 are \$37,838,260.00. This represents a 42.11 percent increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2006 were \$4,236,617.62.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2007 are \$4,484,665.39. This represents a 5.85 percent increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2006 were \$30,967,969.65.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2007 are \$42,426,776.39. This represents a 37.00 percent increase over the previous year.

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Butterfield, Highland rank in Lake County for attendance

Libertyville Elementary District 70's largest schools - Butterfield and Highland - came within the top 10 schools in the 20th Annual Lake County Elementary School Fall Attendance Week.

Attendance at Butterfield was 97.35 percent during the week of Oct. 22-26, according to information supplied by the Lake County Regional Office of Education. Butterfield School ranked sixth with 645 students enrolled for schools with less than 650 students, said Principal Guy Schumacher.

"Attendance has never been an issue at Butterfield School," Schumacher said. "Parents and students value education in our community and the children genuinely enjoy school. We are very proud and even a little surprised this year as we had several students out with the flu during attendance week."

Highland School ranked seventh with 97.3 percent or 930 students enrolled for

schools with greater than 650 students enrolled, said Principal Sharon Aspinall.

"Highland Middle is a place students want to be," Aspinall said. "Their day is filled with exciting opportunities to learn and expand their knowledge base. Who wouldn't want to be here each day! The 2.64% was probably ill and couldn't be here."

All Lake County elementary schools are eligible to be recognized by the Regional School Superintendent for the attendance week award. The Libertyville schools received certificates of achievement at a celebratory luncheon on Nov. 30.

Winter Dance

The entrance fee to get into the Highland Middle School eighth-grade Winter Dance on Dec. 14 will be a toy or book donated for Toys for Tots. The dance will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the school, 310 W. Rockland Road.

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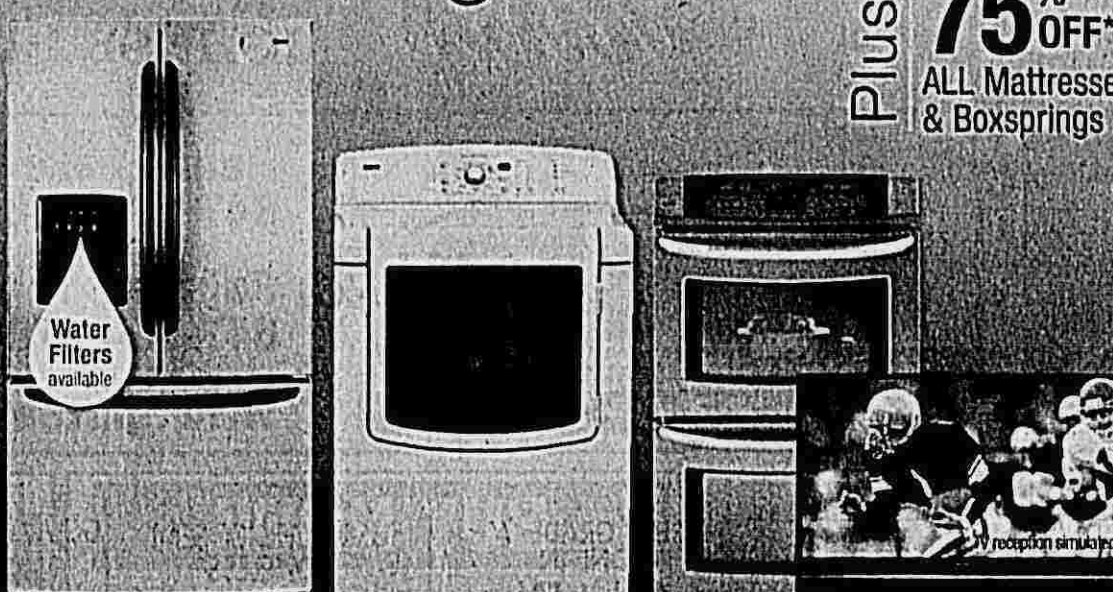
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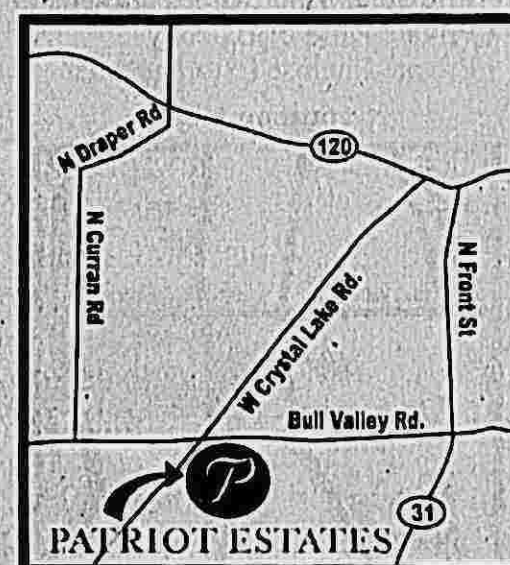
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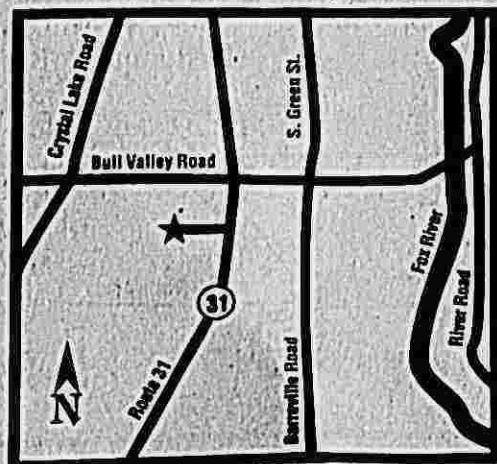
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Koeppen elected Grayslake Chamber president

Lake County Farm Bureau Manager & Medleys In Motion Mobile DJ Service Owner Gregory Koeppen has been elected President of the Grayslake Chamber of Commerce.

Koeppen was elected to the board of directors in 2002 and

since that time has served in a number of leadership positions within the organization including secretary, treasurer and most recently vice president. Koeppen has also been Chairman of the Summer Days Festival for the past three years and served on numerous other committees.

"I am humbled to serve as President of this outstanding organization and even more fortunate to have a talented and diverse board of directors and staff working with me," says Koeppen.

Koeppen is committed to continuing to increase membership in the organization while at the same time looking for new programs current and future members will benefit from. During his installation speech, Koeppen announced the formation of a Legislative Affairs Committee.

"As some lawmakers try and make owning and operating a business in Illinois easier, there are still others that do just the opposite forcing business owners out of business due to increased taxes, rising health care costs and burdensome legislation," says Koeppen. "It is time business owners are listened to in both Springfield and Washington," adds Koeppen.

In addition, Koeppen has challenged the board to look at new and innovative programs and projects to help support and compliment businesses in Grayslake while fostering a good working relationship with other community groups.

"We have some exciting projects moving forward on the fairgrounds property and in the Central Range. The Grayslake Chamber of Commerce is committed to helping attract new businesses, both small and large, to these areas," says Koeppen.

Koeppen joined the Lake County Farm Bureau in 1998 as Information Director and was promoted to Manager of the organization in 2005. In addition to overseeing the organization, Koeppen also owns and operates Medleys In Motion Mobile DJ Service which he began in 1996. In 2003, Koeppen was appointed to the Lake County Zoning Board of Appeals where he continues to serve. He is also a Charter Member of the Grayslake Rotary. As a resident of Grayslake, his involvement in the community is extensive serving as a past member of the Lake County Forest Preserve Rollins Savanna Advisory Committee, Bonner Farm Advisory Committee and the Lake County Model Farm Committee.

In his free time, Koeppen enjoys traveling, gardening and sharing time with family and friends.

"I look forward to serving as President and thank my fellow board members, Executive Director Karen Christian Smith and the chamber members for their continued support and trust as I move forward in this new and exciting role," adds Koeppen.

Holiday mini-camps held by SRACLC

Special Recreation Association of Central Lake County (SRACLC) has two fun filled weeks of activities for your child to enjoy.

The first mini camp will be held on December 26-28, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Carl Hartmann Building in Vernon Hills, and the second mini camp will be on January 2-4, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Creek Building in Lake Zurich. These camps are for participants ages 4-12 years with disabilities. Spend your school days off playing games, creating colorful crafts and going on field trips.

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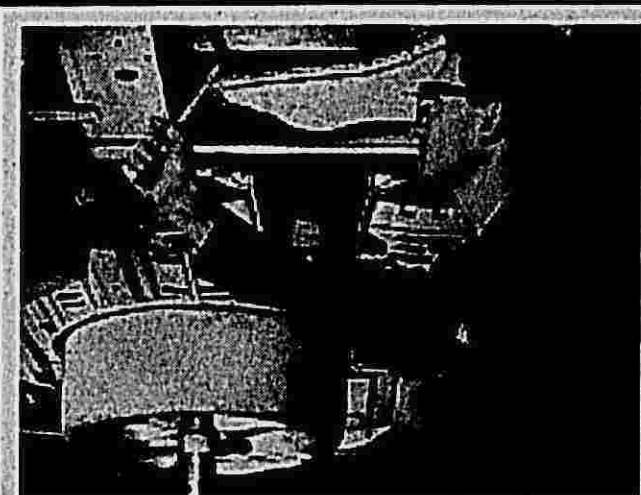
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Auditions for 'Peter Pan'

The Round Lake Area Park District will be holding auditions for Peter Pan on Saturday, January 12 at 1:30 p.m. for dancers ages 6-12 years old and Saturday, January 12 at 3:30 p.m. for dancers ages 12 year to adults. Auditions will consist of primarily of dance so comfortable clothing and dance shoes are suggested. A small portion of the audition will consist of cold readings from the script. Auditions are open to all. No formal dance experience is necessary.

Please Note: Rehearsals will be held on Saturdays and Sundays only until the week before the show. The cast will be approximately 40 people. A registration fee of \$110 will be required from the selected cast performers. The fee will be applied to the cost of the choreographer and class supplies like costumes and scenery. Each member of the cast will receive two complimentary tickets and a production t-shirt. There are approximately 15 roles that require speaking. The remaining roles are dance only roles. For a complete list of character requirements email Christi Nicholson at cnicholson@rlapd.org.

On Saturday, Dec. 16, during their upcoming Libertyville Girl Scout "MainStreet Matters" project, Brownie Troop 892 will offer a visit to the Brownie's at Mickey Finn's Brewery heated patio on Saturday, December 15th from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit MainStreet Libertyville.

'MainStreet Matters' project by Brownie Troop 892

On Saturday, Dec. 16, during their upcoming Libertyville Girl Scout "MainStreet Matters" project, Brownie Troop 892 will offer a visit to the Brownie's at Mickey Finn's Brewery heated patio on Saturday, December 15th from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit MainStreet Libertyville.

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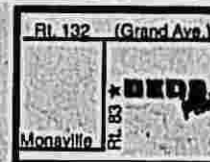
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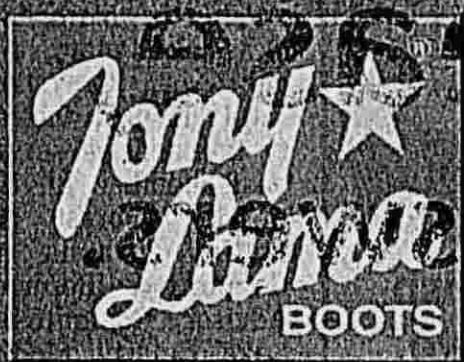
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Middle school orchestra performs Dec. 14

The Highland Middle School Orchestra will travel to all the Libertyville Elementary District 70 elementary schools to perform seasonal music on Dec. 14. The students will perform holiday favorites. This year's blockbuster performance will be "Highlights from Harry Potter." Who knows, Harry might even help "Frosty" to magically appear. The schedule is as follows: 8:40 a.m. at Adler Park School, 1740 N. Milwaukee Ave.; 9:50 a.m. at Copeland Manor School, 801 S. Seventh St.; 1 p.m. at Butterfield School, 1441 W. Lake St.; and 2:10 p.m. at Rockland School, 160 W. Rockland Road; all in Libertyville.

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The Smoke Free Illinois Act

On January 1, 2008 Public Act 95-0017 "The Smoke Free Illinois Act" becomes effective. This Act prohibits smoking in public places and places of employment and imposes requirements on all public places. The Illinois Department of Public Health, has rule-making authority. IRMA and numerous other entities provided comments on the initial Rules filing and the Department issues the final rules. As such, the statutory and regulatory requirements effective January 1, 2008 are:

Smoking is not allowed within any public place

including within 15 feet of any entrance, window that opens, or ventilation intake that serves the public place. This creates a no smoking 'bubble' near the aforementioned points.

Ashtrays or other receptacles must be removed from the premises. The only exception is to have some on hand to extinguish a lit cigarette, cigar, etc. if a person comes in or starts smoking once inside. Ashtrays or other receptacles kept for such purposes may be stored where smoking is prohibited if:

the storage location has

no public access; and, the location is used primarily for storage purposes.

A sign must be clearly and conspicuously posted within all public places. This sign must state 'No Smoking' or consist of the international "No Smoking" symbol. This sign must be:

- no smaller than 5 inches by 7 inches;
- contain the telephone number designated by the Department for registering complaints (1-866-973-4646);
- contain the Department's website for

obtaining a complaint form from www.smoke-free.illinois.gov; and

the sign must be of sufficient size to be clearly legible to an individual of normal vision from a distance of 5 feet

The sign must be posted at every entrance to a public place clearly stating that smoking is prohibited. Entrances include those used only for deliveries, employees, etc.

Employers must communicate to all employees that smoking is prohibited.

Employers must communicate to all applicants for employment, at the time of application, that smoking is prohibited.

These requirements take effect January 1, 2008. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact IRMA.

>> RoundLakeAreaParkDistrict

Winter Break Camp

The Round Lake Area Park District is offering a Winter Break Camps for 1st-6th grades at the Sports Center, 2004 Municipal Way, Round Lake Beach. The camps are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. During the camps, your child will have a chance to participate in soccer, basketball, volleyball, flag football, dodgeball, the climbing wall and much more. An afternoon snack will be provided, just bring a morning snack and a lunch. Session one dates are December 26-28. The cost is \$80/residents and \$100/non-residents. Session two dates are December 31-January 4 (No camp on January 1). The cost is \$108/residents and \$133/non-residents.

Before and after camp is also available for an additional fee. The deadline to register is December 19. For more information, call the Robert W. Rolek Community Center at 847-546-8558 or the Sports Center at 847-740-1111.

Geoff Adkins Bubble Wonders

On Thursday, January 3 at 10 a.m., Geoff Adkins Bubble Wonders will present a captivating and hilarious "Bubbleology" performance including amazing tricks with ordinary soap bubbles. The presentation will be held at the Round Lake Area Park District's Robert W. Rolek Community Center, 814 Hart Road, Round Lake. Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the

door on the day of the performance.

Summer Job Fair

The Round Lake Area Park District will offer a Summer Job Fair on Saturday, January 5, 1-4 p.m. at the Sports Center, 2004 Municipal Way, Round Lake Beach. On-site interviews will be conducted and hires will be notified by phone. Things to bring: identification, resume (if applicable), completed application (available at the registration desk at the Robert W. Rolek Community Center or at Sports Center), past employer names/addresses and a list of three references. For more information, contact Jessica Desens at the Round Lake Area Park District at 847-546-8558.



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Stockings are ready for pick-up (at the facility), just add your own decorations.

Return your creations by Monday, December 17th. You can also send items to be stuffed into them on Christmas Eve.

For questions call 847-546-5300

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Announcements

PROFESSIONALS AVAILABLE

NEW TODAY!

Are You Going Away On Vacation?
Do you need someone to sit. Then call me. The Sitter. 815-219-1613

NOTICES

BSA Fox Lake Troop 85 needs to replace stolen trailer. We are looking for a 3x5 enclosed trailer. Donation or VEVY reasonable price. Please contact Mike A. 847-767-5770

NEW TODAY!

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!
Surrogate Mothers needed to carry for infertile couples. \$20,000 - \$25,000 and expenses paid. Moms with own health insurance needed. **PARENTING PARTNERS** 847-782-0224

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
This is to inform you that there is a possibility you may be contacted by someone trying to scam you. The scammers use plays such as offering to pay you a "processing fee" for depositing checks and sending a percentage back to them. These checks are FAKE and YOU will be held liable for repaying the funds to the bank.

Typically the scammers will contact you via email or via a phone relay system for the hearing impaired so you don't know where they are calling from or what they sound like.

Recently arrests were made in the Netherlands, Nigeria & Canada with fake checks worth more than \$2.1 billion dollars. The average victim of this scam loses \$3000 to \$4000.

Please Be Cautious.
For information on how to report a scam, go to: <http://www.fbi.gov>

This is the Internet Crime Complaint Center and is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) & the National White Collar Crime Center.

NOTICE
PUBLICATION POLICIES
This publication reserves the right to edit or reject any ad without comment. This publication is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material. We accept cash, check, Visa, Mastercard and Discover.

CHECK YOUR AD
Please check your ad the first day it is published. If you see an error, call us immediately and it will be corrected for the next available publication date. Our liability is for only one publication date and shall not exceed the total cost of the first day of publication.

PERSONALS
FREE BROCHURES WAKE UP WITH MAKE UP! MICRO TATTOOING OF EYEBROWS EYELINE LIPLINE Also offering Electrolysis by Sherry. (Permanent Hair Removal) FREE Consultation 847-249-7445

ADOPTION
"ADOPTION" A BRAVE & LOVING DECISION!
We will guide your baby through life's endless adventures and fill their life with love. Expenses Paid 1-866-917-4447 LCFS Lic. #012998

ADOPTION
Caring married couple wish to adopt and cherish a baby. We offer love, security, and a bright future. Expenses paid. Call Maggie & Charles 1-800-504-3839

LOST
LOST CAT Very large Male, Brown tabby, Applewood Sub, on McConnell Rd. in Woodstock. Answers to "Remi". He has a misshapen mouth and drools a lot. Please call any info 815-338-8692

FOUND
CAT: If you have lost a black & white cat, St. Charles area. Please call to describe. 630-762-0017

Found Cat-Black & White long hair. Found in Woodstock near Madison & Bagley, about one week ago. 815-338-4400

Found on November 27th at Olson School Playground in Woodstock. Female Torti. 815-338-4400

Stuff

GIVE AWAY ITEMS

Black Lab Healthy, neutered 3 yr. old looking for new home. Owners moving, cannot take with. Fun, friendly. 262-412-3114

BUNNY BABIES
3 to choose from. Can e-mail or text pictures FREE! 847-513-3410

CAT - 2 year old male with long hair, neutered, declawed and shots. He's Beautiful! To good home. FREE. 815-382-9895

CAT - Black
With bits of orange, very friendly. 815-943-6360

Could you be their Christmas Angel? Many adult cats for adoption, fixed. Call Marie 815-353-4624

PING PONG TABLE
Great Shape - Free! 815-459-5342

APPAREL / FURS

"Leather" Jacket Winter white with fleece lining. Hood, belted, very warm. New. \$150.00/obo 815-568-8632

Beautiful "Faux Fur" Coat Caramel color, size large. Luxurious & warm. \$150.00/obo 815-219-1957

SNOWBOARD BOOTS
Lamar, Size 9, used 1 day. Mint condition. (pd \$179). \$60.00. 847-683-9816

SNOWSUITS - 1 Place Boys
Sz 10-12. Climate Control Brand, very good cond! \$20. 815-788-0299

Wauconda HS Pom
"parent" jacket. Large, new, \$30.00. 847-487-5582 nights

White Mink Fur coat
Great condition. Ladies, car coat length. Size M. \$75.00 630-845-2680

Winter Coat
Brown, w fur around hood. Never worn. Beauty. Size 3x. pd \$79.99. \$50.00 815-337-1773

APPLIANCES

DISHWASHER
Portable with Cutting Table on Top, Like New. Washes dishes very well! \$199. 815-479-8912

DRYER - GAS
In great shape. Under 5 yrs old. \$75. 815-790-9897

DRYER
Amana, Gas, white, super capacity plus-7.1 cu. ft. 5 yrs old, good condition. \$99.00 815-923-2711

Microwave Oven
Toshiba, Excellent condition. \$40.00 815-404-1100

RANGE - ELECTRIC
1 year old - You pick up! \$60. 847-639-6215

RANGE - G.E. GAS 30"
Like New! \$199. 815-985-7450

RANGE - KENMORE
Gas, Continuous Cleaning oven, 36", avocado, \$99. Cash/obo. 815-943-3592

RANGE - Kitchen Aid
electric glass cooktop, convection oven, white, \$99. 847-658-8522

Refrigerator - GE
8 yrs old, top freezer, white, 20.6 cu. ft. Runs great, exc cond. in Montgomery. \$199. 630-897-9737

Washer Dryer Apt.
size \$800/obo 815-403-9529

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PRAIRIE GROVE, IL 60012
SAVE UP TO 80%
TRUCKLOAD CLEARANCE SALE
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www.matthewswarehouse.com

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lakecountyjournals.com

Do you have a loved one in a NURSING HOME?
Worried about losing their life savings?
You can still protect much, and maybe all, of their assets for the family.
Call Joe Oettel, MCEP, CFP® 217-726-0176
Estate & Retirement Planning
LIGHTHOUSE FINANCIAL & CONSULTING SERVICES, LLC

THE NEW Reusable - Lint Trapper
... as seen on -
Ask in plumbing department at:
LOWES MENARDS
Never Change A Lint Filter Again!
Fits in your Laundry Tub Drain!

Protects Plumbing & Septic Systems!

House

Our state has a history of some pretty good lawyers.
AND WE'RE OUT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.
Who's on your side? Ask if your lawyer is a member of the ISBA.
ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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Year End Special!
Great New Floorplans!
Free Whirlpool appliances!
Expanded Delivery Area!
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Order A Design Home By December 31 And "Lock-In" This Year's Price On Any Home Delivered In 2008!

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designhomes.com ~ 800-627-9443

FOUND
1950's Dining Room Buffet 3 chairs & 2 cabinets. \$300.00 630-377-2637

Antique Hope Chest
Cedar lined, medium walnut. \$150.00 224-333-0275

GUN RACK - Texas, Old
West hand carved, 4 rifle spots, picture of buck deer, locker drawer on bottom. \$100/OBO. 815-382-9919

Old Wood Milk Crates
Misc. Dairies. \$25.00 ea. 815-991-1449

SLIDE PROJECTOR
working vintage Argus 560 Electronic, 2 projection tables, 52 trays (in boxes) 19 trays w/out boxes, ea. Tray holds 60 slides, \$150 for ALL. Arlene after 5pm or iv mssg. 815-675-6863

SPICE / CANNISTER SET
blue-white porcelain \$100 Great Christmas Gift 630-232-2146

BABY ITEMS

BABY WALKER - 2 in 1
Koolcraft Tiny Steps Very good condition! \$10. 815-788-0299

Car Seat Century
up to 40lbs. 5 pt. harness, light grey, great condition. \$30.00 630-409-8064

PORT-A-CRIB - NuLine
Great for leaving at Grand-ma's or babysitter's house. Call Arlene after 5:00pm at 815-675-6863 or iv mssg.

CHAIR
French Provincial style, original upholstery, excellent condition. \$150.00 815-338-1483

COUCH
great shape, 7x3x3 green & tan, \$50. 815-790-9897

DESK w/ HUTCH
Oak, 48" L x 52" H total, NICE! Won't last! \$50. 815-363-1694

DRESSER - Very Nice!
2 lg & 2 sm drawers 33" x 42" w, \$199. 815-344-1406

Entertainment Center
Oak, 60" W x 31" H x 20" D. Lots of storage, excellent condition. \$75.00 630-761-3061

Entertainment Center
Solid Oak w/ stained glass doors on front. Hold 27" TV, with storage. 54" x 18" x 55". Great condition. \$125.00 847-458-6650

Entertainment Center
White Oak, 6H x 46" W, Fits 32" TV. Good condition. \$50.00/obo 815-339-3740

HIDE-A-BED / Small Scale
double, like new, neutral blue/beige cover. Need the space? \$60 you take! Call 815-337-7529

Oak Kitchen Trash Bin
Brand new. 42 quart size. \$99.00 847-302-9003

Queen Headboard
White, wrought iron. Excellent condition. \$75.00/obo 815-455-8439

TABLE & 2 CHAIRS
Maple - Rustic Antique (Table 40" x 29") \$110. 815-601-2310

TABLE LAMP w/ SHADE
White Tail Deer Antler. \$190. 815-344-5269

Table Set
2 End tables & matching coffee table. \$199.00 224-623-2006

TWIN Bed Frame, Headboard, Footboard & Side Rails, oak wood, NICE!
\$50. 815-363-1694

TWIN BED
w/ Box Spring, Mattress, 5 years old, good shape, \$100. 815-728-9805

Twin Size Bed Frame
All wood, on wheels. \$25.00 Good condition. 815-477-7587

Wholesale Furniture
* HOLIDAY SALE *
Queen Mattress Set, \$35. 80c Leather Sofa Set, \$850. 80c Bedroom Set, \$390. 80c Dining Set, \$129.95. On Pillow Top Set, \$150. 80c Oak Bed Set, \$250. 80c Chair, \$129.95. Sheldon 2201 W. Devon Top Quality 773-973-7070

Wooden Table w/ 4 chairs
\$25.00 Good condition. 815-477-7587

26" GE Color T.V.
with Remote control. Works fine, very good condition. \$40.00 630-761-3061

T.V. BIG Screen Mitsubishi
37" x 47" - Black \$100/ OBO. 815-861-6587

HOUSEWARES

45 Piece Porcelain China
Dinnerware, Service for 8. White w/ silver & pastel flower rim. \$45.00 847-854-7236

Bathroom Accessories
Like new, Crosclair brand. Soap, cup, tissue holders, rugs & more! 847-951-0571

CHINA SERVICE for 12
5pc place settings, white & green floral w/ silver rim, 4 extra serving pieces incl'd. \$65. 815-338-5553

COOKWARE

15 piece Circulon II Pots & Pans
Like new-some pots never used. \$80/obo. 815-363-7889

Kitchen Apple Decor
Incl. Cookie jar, clock, canister set, teapot, more! Excellent condition. 847-951-0571

MACHINERY & TOOLS

Craftsman Circular Saw
7 1/4" electric, 2 3/4 HP, Good condition. \$35.00 847-476-7685

HEATER
for Garage or Workshop, 22,300BTU, Kerosene, \$40. 847-428-7291

MOTOR 1/3HP
Class 1 group D hazardous duty, 115/230 vac. Built-in switch, \$40. 815-923-5111

Socket Set (Allen)
4mm-10mm (Mac) 3/8 drive. \$40.00 815-479-9388

Socket Set (Mac)
1/4" drive Short Chrome 5mm-14mm. \$30.00 815-479-9388

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Shower/Tub Transfer Bench
Great for elderly or post-op joint replacements. \$39.00 815-459-6574

MISCELLANEOUS

Championship Videos
Over 100+ Bulls, Cubs, Bears. VHS tapes from championships/playoffs. \$95.00 630-485-3464

CLASSIC BUMPER POOL
TABLE w/ COIN SLOT Great Condition, Great Gift \$110.00 815-385-0922

COMIC BOOKS (150)
Superman, Spider-Man, Hulk, X-Men, etc. Great Gift! \$99.00 847-669-7332

Harley Davidson Vest
With Indianhead Nickel snaps. Med/large Black leather. Brand new, great gift! \$150.00 847-334-3005

OIL PAINTING
3x4 Tropical Theme \$99. 815-690-1013

TRAIN SET
Small N gauge set with 2 trains, town layout w/ city park & depot, rallyard, mounted on 3x4" table. \$199.00 815-635-3420

Wooden Model Kit
New 3 m. ship, 1:80 scale. "H.M.S. Endeavor" Great X-mas gift. \$100.00 847-669-5866

Wooden Model Kit
New 3 m. ship, 1:60 scale. "Charles Morgan". Great X-mas gift. \$100.00 847-669-5866

X-BOX GAME (1)
Medal of Honor Rising Sun Brand new, never opened! \$25. 815-788-0299

ZTurbo Electric Scooter
200 lb. limit. Folds up, weighs 20lbs. \$150.00 815-404-4190

RECRUIT LOCAL!
Target your recruitment message close to home or reach our entire area. For more information, call 800-589-8237 or email: helpwanted@nwnewsjournal.com

NOTICE OF APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY
Plumbers Local 93 U.A. Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee
31855 North U.S. Highway 12, Volo, IL 60073
Will accept applications for consideration of entrance into the Plumbers Apprenticeship Program. Applications can be filled out at Plumbers Local 93 Monday through Friday between the times of 9am to 11:30am and 1pm to 4pm starting Friday, February 1 thru February 29, 2008 and Saturday, February 9, 2008 from 9am to 11:30am. After this date applications will not be accepted.
Basic Requirements:
• \$25.00 application fee will be administered (cash or bank check; no personal checks will be accepted).
• Minimum 18 years of age (proof of birth certificate or baptismal certificate).
• Minimum High School Diploma or equivalency certificate (*GED with Grade Transcripts).
• DD214 (only if having served time in the military)
• Must have a valid driver's license.
• Please note that Plumbers Local 93 will accept copies only. No originals will be accepted.
• It is recommended that copies of the required documents be provided at the time of filling out the application.
Applications will be afforded equal opportunity without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origin.
Applications must be filled out in person.
Call 815-759-5900 for further information.
Don't miss this opportunity! This is not a job offer.

NEW TODAY!

BED-LOFT STYLE
with computer desk underneath, includes chair. Twin size, very good condition, only two years old. Crystal Lake area. Asking \$125. Please call 815-444-9126

NEW TODAY!

BED-LOFT STYLE
with computer desk underneath, includes chair. Twin size, very good condition, only two years old. Crystal Lake area. Asking \$125. Please call 815-444-9126

NEW TODAY!

BENCH Beautiful Spanish
Style Iron Bench, very heavy \$199. 815-382-2336

Black Leather Couch
3 seat, with queen size Hide a Bed. \$199.00 224-623-2478

WATERFORD (4)
Lismore Liqueur Glasses * Brand New! \$60/ For 4! 815-337-7529

HOLIDAY

100 Ornaments
Green/Gold, pink colors. All matching, & other accessories. (pd \$500.) All \$99.00 847-683-9816

9 Ft. Artificial Tree
w/ storage boxes. \$65.00 847-669-2888

Christmas Tree
7 ft., full tree. Brand new in box. Never opened. \$85.00 847-516-2858

Christmas Tree
7 ft., SLIM tree. Used 2 yrs. \$75.00 847-516-2858

Christmas Tree 7 1/2'
Lush & very full. Pinecones & lightly frosted tips. \$40.00/obo 630-232-7110

CHRISTMAS WREATH
* 1 OF A KIND * \$25. 815-455-3730

DEPT. 56 - Snow Village
Pinewood Log Cabin, Village Gazebo, Good Shepherd, Chapel and School, Santa coming to Town, Mush, In Original Boxes! \$95/ Best. 630-879-3844

Holiday Dinnerware
6 place settings. Hollywood trim on edges. Like new. \$20.00 815-477-2566

Outdoor X-Mas Lights
4 strings, 110 lights with extra bulbs. \$15.00 815-459-1834

SANTA SUIT
Brand New, Size Large Still in box. Dundee area. \$100.00 847-428-7291

X-Mas Tree
4 ft. Mountain King dark forest pine in stand w/ lights & some ornaments. \$35.00 815-338-4021

ELECTRONICS

26" GE Color T.V.
with Remote control. Works fine, very good condition. \$40.00 630-761-3061

T.V. BIG Screen Mitsubishi
37" x 47" - Black \$100/ OBO. 815-861-6587

HOUSEWARES

45 Piece Porcelain China
Dinnerware, Service for 8. White w/ silver & pastel flower rim. \$45.00 847-854-7236

Bathroom Accessories
Like new, Crosclair brand. Soap, cup, tissue holders, rugs & more! 847-951-0571

CHINA SERVICE for 12
5pc place settings, white & green floral w/ silver rim, 4 extra serving pieces incl'd. \$65. 815-338-5553

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15 piece Circulon II Pots & Pans
Like new-some pots never used. \$80/obo. 815-363-7889

Kitchen Apple Decor
Incl. Cookie jar, clock, canister set, teapot, more! Excellent condition. 847-951-0571

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Craftsman Circular Saw
7 1/4" electric, 2 3/4 HP, Good condition. \$35.00 847-476-7685

HEATER
for Garage or Workshop, 22,300BTU, Kerosene, \$40. 847-428-7291

MOTOR 1/3HP
Class 1 group D hazardous duty, 115/230 vac. Built-in switch, \$40. 815-923-5111

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2002 Impala LS
Awesome \$7,990.
PLP/PM, air
Leather, cruise
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2002 LaSalle Ltd
Only \$11,990.
Auto, leather, CD
PLP/PM, cruise
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2002 Monte Carlo SS
Only \$10,990.
Auto, leather, air
PLP/PM, cruise
847-497-9807

2002 Sunfire
Only \$5,990.
Auto, PL, Air
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2003 BMW 325i
Fully loaded, good condition, 54K miles, new tires, \$17,600. 815-207-1755

2003 Monte Carlo SS
Only \$11,940.
Auto, leather, air
PLP/PM, alloys
847-497-9807

2003 Suzuki Aerie
Only \$5,990.
PLP/PM, Auto, Air
847-497-9807

2004 Camry LE
Only \$13,990.
PLP/PM, Auto, Cruise, CD
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2004 Cavalier LS
Only \$8,990.
Sport pkg., chrome
Moon, auto, 2 dr.
Ground effects
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PLP/PM, Auto, Cruise
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2004 IMPALA
Only \$10,990.
Auto, Air, CD
Cruise, PLP/PM
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2004 Taurus LX
Only \$9,990.
PLP/PM, Auto, Air, Tilt
847-497-9807

2005 Dodge Neon
Only \$10,990.
Auto, Alloys, Air
PLP/PM
847-497-9807

2005 Tiburon GS
Only \$13,990.
Auto, air, 2WD
PLP/PM, alloys
847-497-9807

2006 Corolla LE
Only \$12,490.
Auto w/ECT, CD, Air
PLP/PM, Cruise
847-497-9807

2006 Malibu LS
Only \$10,990.
PLP/PM, CD
Auto, Air, Cruise
847-497-9807

2003 Sebring LX
Only \$10,990.
Conv., Air, CD
PLP/PM
847-497-9807

2001 Dodge Ram
Only \$6,990.
PLP/PM, Air
AM/FM/CD, alloys
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2004 F250 Crew Cab
Harley Davidson
Won't last \$25,990.
HD wheels, leather, moon
Full power.
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2004 Silverado 4x4
\$18,990.
Z71, w/full power
Clean truck, CD
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2001 Blazer LS
Only \$7,990.
Auto, CD, 4WD
PLP/PM
847-497-9807

2001 Rav4
Only \$12,990.
Auto, AWD, CD
Alloys
847-497-9807

2002 AVALANCHE Z71
Only \$16,990.
SUV & P/U in 11
Leather, moon, CD
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2002 Pathfinder SE
Only \$10,990.
Auto, Alloys AC,
PLP/PM, Cruise
847-497-9807

2002 RODEO SPORT
Only \$7,990.
PLP/PM, air, cruise
Multi CD
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2003 Highlander Ltd
Only \$17,990.
V6, 4x4, Leather,
Moonroof, WOW!
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2004 CR-V LX
Only \$12,990.
Auto, Multi CD, AC
PLP/PM, Cruise
847-497-9807

2004 Envoy SLT
Only \$15,990.
Auto, Leather, CD
PLP/PM, loaded
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2004 Pacifica
Only \$13,990.
Auto, CD, Air
PLP/PM, alloys
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Classified delivers
qualified job seekers.
Journals Classified
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SUVs

2004 Pontiac Vibe
Only \$10,990.
PLP/PM, Air, CD
Auto w/OD
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2004 RAV4
Only \$15,990.
Auto, Air, CD, 2WD
PLP/PM
847-497-9807

2004 Santa Fe GLS
Only \$12,990.
Auto, Air, Alloys
PLP/PM, tilt
847-497-9807

2006 Durango SLT
Only \$18,990.
Auto, CD, Air
PLP/PM, 7 pass
847-497-9807

2006 Explorer Ltd.
Only \$23,990.
Leather, moon, chrome
wheels, loaded!
847-497-9807

2006 LIBERTY SPORT
Only \$18,990.
Auto, Multi CD, Air
PLP/PM, alloys, 4WD
847-497-9807

1995 FORD WINDSTAR
Fully loaded, New brakes,
113K light blue - In exc
cond! \$1800/OBO.
Call anytime.
815-236-9460

1996 Chevy Van
Only \$5,990.
Auto, leather, air
PLP/PM, Alloys
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1999 High Top 1500
Loaded Conversion
Priced at \$2990.
TV, lighting package
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2004 Sienna XLE
Priced at \$18,990.
Power everything,
Leather, Moon, Loaded!
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2007 Town & Country
Only \$16,990.
Touring, alloys, CD
PLP/PM, auto
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2007 Town & Country
Only \$16,990.
Touring, alloys, CD
PLP/PM, auto
847-497-9807

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TIMESHARE!!! Paying too much 4 maintenance fees & taxes? Sell / Rent your timeshare for cash. No Commissions / Broker fees. 866-708-3690 www.vpresales.com

HOUSES FOR SALE
A Christmas Present!!! Crystal Lake \$199,900 includes closing costs. New roof & lum. 815-690-1538

NEW TODAY!
MCHENRY Reduced completely remodeled 4 bdrm, 2 ba Tri-Level, Fox Ridge Sub. TOO much to list. \$239,900 815-347-1745

CONDOS/TOWNHOMES FOR SALE
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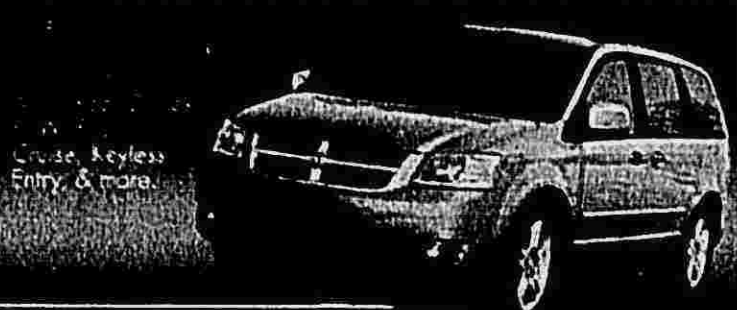


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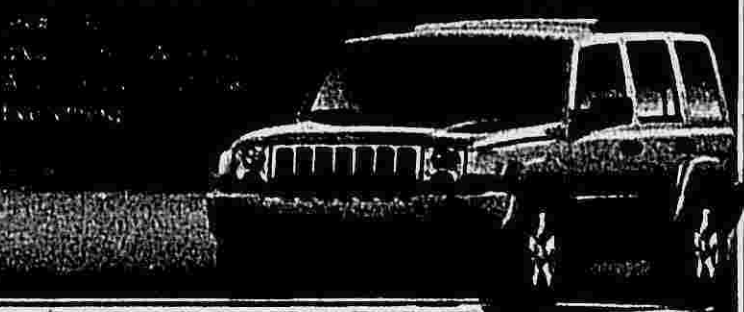
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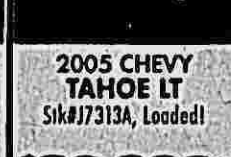
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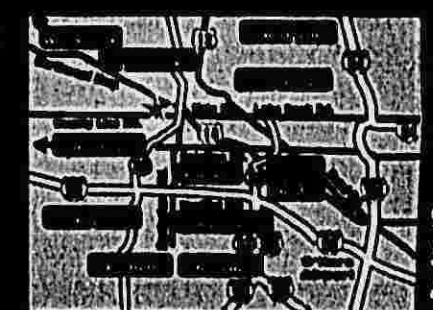
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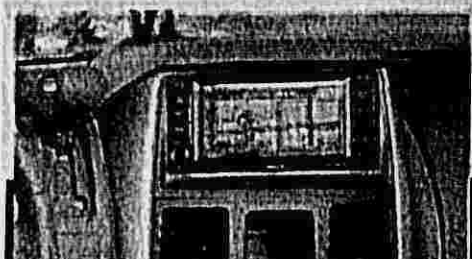
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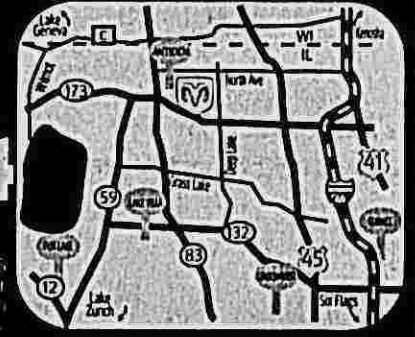
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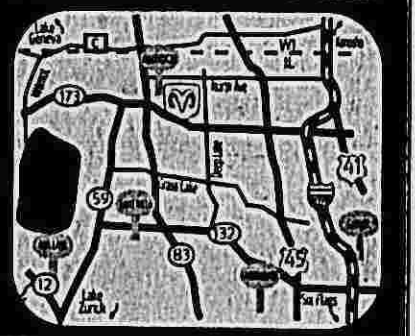
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>> BestBets

MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS: The 26th Annual Holiday Magic event will take place from 4 to 9 p.m. Dec. 15 and 16 at Brookfield Zoo.

HOLIDAYS ON TV: See a Christmas collection from vintage TV shows from 1 to 4 p.m. during December at the McHenry County Historical Society.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON: Coriolis, an a cappella chamber choir, will perform beginning at 4 p.m. Dec. 16 at Byron Colby Barn in Grayslake.

Details for BestBets events on page 2B

INSIDE

>> NowShowing

Movie reviews

'I Am Legend'

☆☆☆

• Movie critic Jeffrey Westhoff says actor Will Smith is on his way to becoming a legend with his performance in "I Am Legend," but poor story development makes the film weak.

PAGE 2B



>> OnStage

'Ella'

"Ella" tells the story of jazz great Ella Fitzgerald, who is known as the First Lady of Song. The play will be performed through Jan. 6 in Skokie.

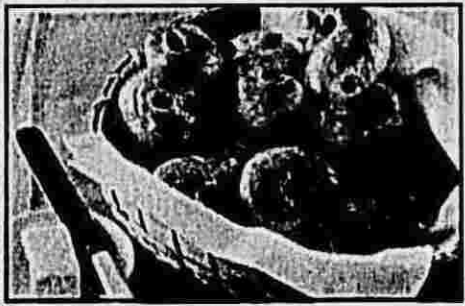
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>> Out&About

Calendar

Looking for something to do in or around Lake County? Check the Out & About calendar for a list of local events.

PAGE 2B



>> RelishTheAmericanTable

Lussekatter

Celebrate Santa Lucia Day Dec. 13 with a delicious batch of lussekatter, or saffron buns. To read the recipe, go to LakeCountyJournals.com and select "food" under LakeLife.

The gift of healing

Offering support, gifts can help cope with loss

By GENEVA WHITE
gwhite@nwnewsgroup.com

Six years ago, Renee Wood, of Geneva, wanted to comfort her sister-in-law, whose father had recently died.

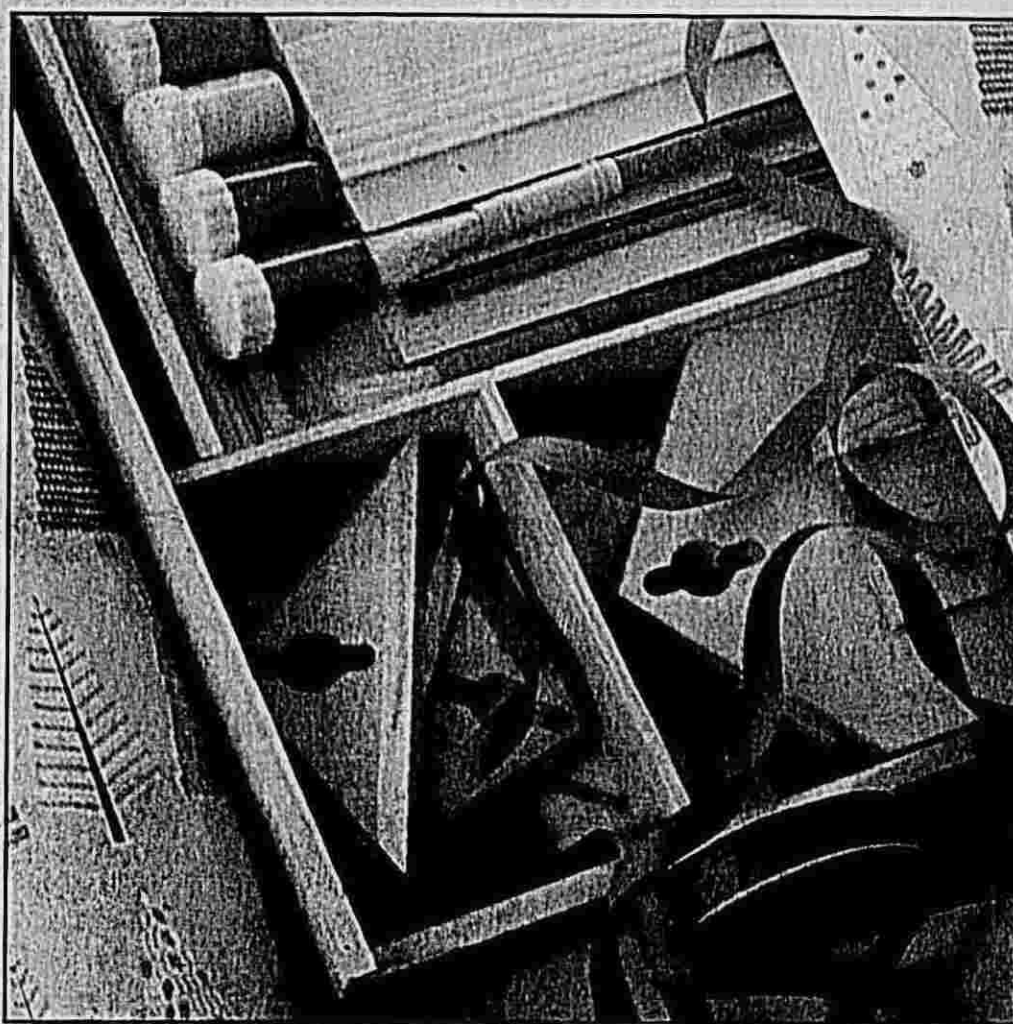
A former social worker in neonatal intensive care and renal units at hospitals near Little Rock, Ark., Wood was familiar with the grief process. But the mother of four still couldn't find the right way to express her sympathy for what her loved one was going through. So she designed her own tear-shaped pendant to give as a sympathy gift.

"I wanted something that was going to say to her, 'I know what a significant loss this has been. I know you're devastated,'" said Wood, 42. "I wanted something that was going to last forever and was going to be a reminder of her dad."

Although many people have experienced a death themselves, they often feel helpless and unsure of what to do when another person is grieving, experts said. Experts also said it is important to acknowledge a friend or loved one's loss and allow him or her to talk about it, particularly during the holidays.

"Historically, we struggle with grief and loss," Wood said. "If you just say something like, 'I know the holidays are going to be difficult this year,' it certainly opens that door for them to begin a discussion if they want to."

Wood's gift to her sister-in-law and background in social work led her to start her own business, The Comfort



Pictured is Smith & Hawken's Build-a-Birdfeeder Kit (\$30) complete with paint and brushes. A gift like this can be a great way to show someone who's lost a loved one that you're thinking of them.

Company, in 2001. Along with the Forget-Me-Not teardrop pendants, The Comfort Company's selection of sympathy gifts includes holiday ornaments, personalized garden stones, care packages, framed poetry, and wind chimes.

"So many of us try to gauge how that person is feeling," Wood said. "They don't want to bring it up and remind [the person] of their loss. But it never leaves."

Jordan Wolf, manager of clinical

social services for Hospice of Northeastern Illinois, advised against using clichés when helping others through their grief. Expressions such as "Time heals all wounds" are best avoided, he said.

"That kind of stuff is invalid," Wolf said. "That's not what it's about. It's about just offering your support."

Even often-said comments such as "He's happy now," "She's out of pain," and "God needed another angel" are unnecessary, Wood said. The loss

How to help

- Avoid using clichés such as "Time heals all wounds."
- Acknowledge the loss, and try to get those grieving to talk about it.
- If you're not sure how to talk to someone who's grieving, leave a message when the person isn't home.
- Offer support to those who have lost a loved one.

Source: Jordan Wolf, manager of clinical social services for Hospice of Northeastern Illinois, and Dawn Levitan, a Crystal Lake psychologist

should be acknowledged, not minimized.

"It's like the elephant in the room," Wood said. "Nobody wants to talk about it. But it's the talking that brings the healing, especially during the holidays."

One of the best ways to help someone through his or her grief is to simply offer support, said Crystal Lake psychologist Dawn Levitan.

"Sometimes just sitting right next to them, letting them talk or just basically being there is enough," she said. "Don't try to run away from it."

"Don't try to push it away or go around the grief. People don't know what to say because it brings up all their own unresolved issues."

Approaching a grieving friend or relative about their loss might be awkward, Wood said, but the worst thing to do is ignore or avoid the issue.

"If you're not comfortable, call at a time when you know they're gone and leave a message on their machine," Wood said. "If they're on your mind this holiday season, you need to let them know."

Winter wonderland comes to Waukegan

Marie Osmond brings spirit of Christmas to Genesee Theatre

By DANI SCHWEIGERT
dschweigert@nwnewsgroup.com

In the 1970s, Donny and Marie Osmond sang, danced, and joked their way into the living rooms and hearts of families across the world through their variety show, "Donny and Marie," so it's no surprise that the duo is still performing for fans.

Marie, 48, recently toured with her brothers and just finished a run on "Dancing with the Stars," but she isn't done yet. The singer is now touring through Dec. 23 to promote her new Christmas album, "Marie Osmond's Magic of Christmas." On Dec. 7, she stopped by Genesee Theatre in Waukegan for a performance, turning the stage into a winter wonderland filled with glittering Christmas trees.

As audience members shuffled into their seats, they were greeted by familiar Christmas songs that helped create a holiday spirit. Marie kept that spirit alive when she came on stage in a black dress and sang "We Need a Little Christmas."

Staying true to her country roots, Marie added a slight swing to several of her songs. Her power-

Want more Marie?

• To buy "Marie Osmond's Magic of Christmas," and to see a full schedule of her tour, go to <http://marie.osmond.com>.

• For more about Genesee Theatre, go to www.genesee theatre.com.



Photo provided

ful voice and raw, gravelly vibrato seemed to come as a surprise from her tiny frame, which she told the audience is thanks to her time on "Dancing with the Stars."

"It was the best diet I've ever been on," she said.

And when she had technical difficulties during "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas," she laughed and told the crowd, "You voted for me too much, and [my band] didn't get enough rehearsal time. You can't throw me, are you kidding? After ['Dancing with the Stars' judge Bruno] Tonioli, I can face anything."

But, as Osmond fans know, Christmas music isn't the only style Marie can sing. She proved this when she sang "Buggie Wuggy Bugle Boy," a song with tight chords and difficult harmonies, with her back up singers. She also sang several

"You can't throw me, are you kidding? After ['Dancing with the Stars' judge Bruno] Tonioli, I can face anything."

Marie Osmond
Singer and dancer

Broadway numbers from "The King and I" and "The Sound of Music," which are musicals she has starred in.

The songs that seemed to get the biggest reaction from the crowd, however, weren't sung by Marie — they were sung by six of her eight children. Her son Stephen sang "All I Want For Christmas" and a Christmas song he wrote himself.

Marie then took a stroll down memory lane as she played footage of past Osmond Christmases, after which she threw candy canes into the crowd.

But whether remembering holidays past or enjoying the holiday music of today, audience members seemed to leave Genesee Theatre with a smile on their faces as Marie reminded them what Christmas is all about — family.

INSIDE SPORTS



Kevin Kaduk

>> Views

Northwest News Group Pro Sports Columnist Kevin Kaduk gives readers the over/under of the Chicago-area sports world. Hint: Odds are that things are not going to go well for the Bears next year.

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>> PrepSports

Taking the court

Underdog Carmel ices Marian, Catholic but still comes up short as Marian Catholic won 33-13. But how does this game compare to low-scoring games of the past?

PAGE 12B

>> QuickHitters

Athletic spotlight

Grayslake Central's Ryan Lund placed first at the Wheeling wrestling tournament last weekend, while Warren basketball center Sarah Boothe led her team to a win over eighth-ranked Lake Park.

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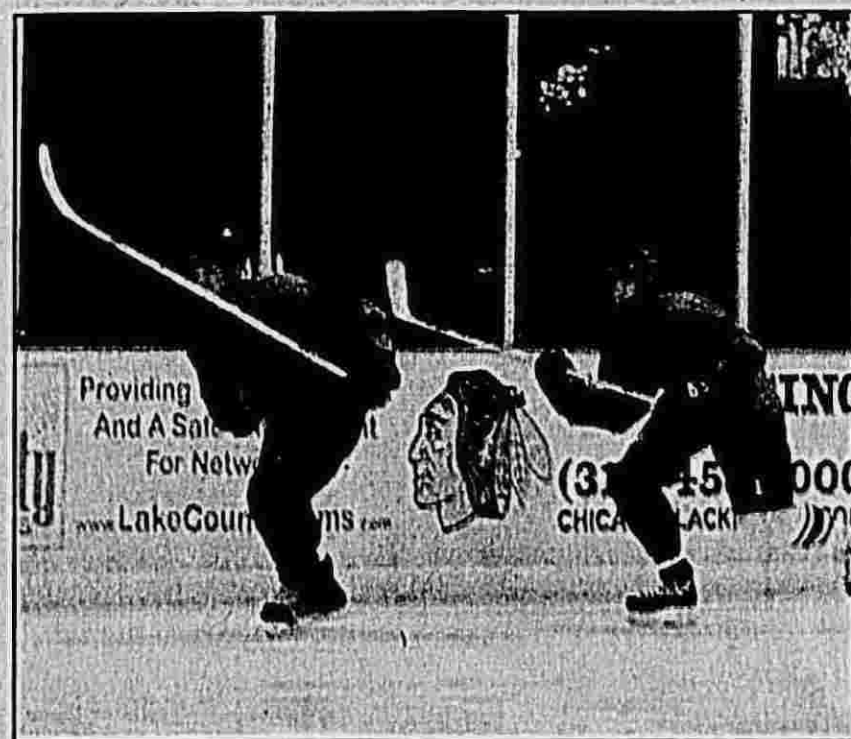
>> GameOfTheWeek

Showdown on the court

Warren and New Trier at 3:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, in Champaign.

PAGE 7B

Hockey hype



Annie Christie - achr Christie@nwnewsgroup.com
Matt Degroot and Bradley Drogos, of Grayslake Central High School, perform a drill during a hockey practice. To read more, see PAGE 7B.

>> Out&About

MUSEUM EVENTS

MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY- Relive those TV holiday specials at the McHenry County Historical Society, 6422 Main St. in Union. A comprehensive Christmas memorabilia collection from vintage TV shows is on display from 1 to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays during December at the historical society. The event is free. Dave Harms, of Crystal Lake, provided the memorabilia. For those whose schedules do not allow for a day-time visit, the museum will stay open on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. by appointment only. For more information about the historical society visit www.mchsonline.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS

FESTIVAL ARTS OF ANTIOCH- The Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah will be presented by the Antioch Community Chorus, accompanied by the Tim Motalvo String Ensemble and instrumentals from the Lakes Community Band. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at St. Peter Catholic Church in Antioch. If you have any questions, call Mabel Lou Weber at 847-265-3152 or Ken or Betty Smouse at 847-395-1333.

LAMBS FARM- Children can share hot cocoa with Santa at Lambs Farm's annual Breakfast with Santa from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 15 and 16 at Country Inn Restaurant. Lambs Farm is at 14245 W. Rockland Road in Libertyville. Cost is \$14.95 for anyone two years old or older. Children younger than 2 years old can come for free. For more information or to make a reservation, call Country Inn Restaurant at 847-362-5050.

BYRON COLBY BARN- Coriolis, an a cappella chamber choir, will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Byron Colby Barn, 1561 Jones Point Road in Grayslake, in the Prairie Crossing development. Cost is \$15 for adults. Children 16 and younger are free. For more information, call 847-543-1202.

ZOO EVENTS

BROOKFIELD ZOO- The 26th Annual Holiday Magic event, hosted by the Chicago Zoological Society, will feature holiday entertainment, decorations, and a laser light show. The festival takes place Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 15, 16, 22, and 23, and Wednesday through Monday Dec. 26 through 31, from 4 to 9 p.m. Brookfield Zoo is at First Avenue between Ogden Avenue and 31st Street in Brookfield. For more information, visit www.brookfieldzoo.org.

To submit an event for Out & About, e-mail Dani Schweigert at dschweigert@nwnewsgroup.com. For more Out & About listings, go to LakeCountyJournals.com and select "calendar" under LakeLife.

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Plot problems plague 'I Am Legend'

By JEFFREY WESTHOFF
sidetracks@nwnewsgroup.com

Some movies, including "Superman: The Motion Picture" and "Office Space," are great until they get around to telling a story.

Add "I Am Legend" to that list. The science-fiction thriller is terrific for the first hour, as it shows how Will Smith copes with possibly being the last man on Earth. Or at least the last man who hasn't been turned into a vampire-zombie hybrid by a rampaging virus.

It's not as if there is no story at all in the first hour, but this period is mostly a study of Smith's character, soldier-scientist Robert Neville, and the meticulous daily schedule that keeps this lone survivalist alive.

The story takes place sometime in the next decade, more than 1,000 days after the quarantine of Manhattan, N.Y. Neville now roams the empty skyscraper canyons on his own, hunting deer by day and hiding in a well-stocked and well-armored TriBeCa mansion by night. Sunlight is lethal to "the infected" (which, along with cannibalism, makes them behave like vampires), so they leave their nests only at night. The thoroughness and logic of Neville's preparations are fascinating. His home is stocked with canned goods that he no doubt collected from supermarkets. He powers his home with generators that are no doubt taken from hardware stores.

As a virologist who was looking for a cure before the virus was widespread, Neville maintains an elaborate lab in his basement and continues his work, even though there might be no other humans to save.

Frantically edited flashbacks show Neville's last night with his family (Salli Richardson and Willow Smith, the star's daughter) during the evacuation of Manhattan.

After the first hour come a pair of plot points that move director Francis Lawrence ("Constantine") from portraiture to storyteller. He turns out to be



Photo provided

Will Smith performs in a scene from "I Am Legend."

"I Am Legend"

★★★

Genre: Action/adventure
Writers: Mark Protosevich and Akiva Goldsman
Director: Francis Lawrence
More information: Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of science-fiction action and violence; running time is 114 minutes

better as the former.

I don't want to ruin any third-act surprises, but after being a sharp-eyed, taciturn hero for so long, Neville goes on to compare himself to Bob Marley and Shrek. That's a mind-boggling pair of influences.

Lawrence and screenwriters Mark Protosevich and Akiva Goldsman throw in a lot of action and violence at the climax, but it pushes us away from the narrative long after we have surrendered to it. "I Am Legend" doesn't end so much as it runs out of time.

The film is based on Richard

Matheson's seminal horror novel, which also inspired the 1971 Charlton Heston film "The Omega Man." I'm afraid I haven't read the book or seen the earlier movie ("Planet of the Apes" and "Soylent Green" sated my appetite for post-apocalyptic Chuck Heston), so I can't provide comparisons.

Some of the special effects in "I Am Legend" are great, but others are distracting. The team responsible for turning Manhattan into a wasteland did a fantastic job, but the team responsible for the mutant zombie vampires went too far with computer-generated images.

Smith once again proves why he is today's top box office draw. He defines his character with little dialogue for nearly an hour, and survives the script's weaknesses in the second half. The star might not be a legend yet, but he is on his way.

Jeffrey Westhoff is a movie critic for the North West News Group. He can be reached by e-mail at sidetracks@nwnewsgroup.com.

>> OnStage

'Ella' tells story about First Lady of Song

By TOM WITOM
thomaswitom@yahoo.com

Jazz great Ella Fitzgerald (1917-1996), often called the First Lady of Song, enriched the world with her musical talent. An international sensation, Fitzgerald's fans flocked to her concerts and regularly snapped up her record albums.

Few, however, knew the back story of the celebrated

Tickets, please

What: "Ella"
Where: Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd. in Skokie
When: Through Jan. 6, 2008
Tickets: \$38 to \$58
Show information: 847-673-6300

artist's life.

"Ella," based on a script by Jeffrey Hatcher and conceived by Rob Ruggiero and

Dyke Garrison, is now making its Chicago-area premiere as a Northlight Theatre production.

Combining myth, mystery, memory, and music, it celebrates Fitzgerald's career and provides a glimpse of her private side.

The 120-minute show follows the singer as her manager, Norman Granz (David Parkes), led her from bebop to a much broader direction:

jazz. Distinctive vocal styling served the singer well. E.

Faye Butler, a dynamic performer who previously starred as Dinah Washington in "Dinah Was," sizzles as Ella. She has a strong stage presence and demonstrates a broad vocal range. While she might not scat with the panache of Fitzgerald, she packs a solid emotional impact all the same.

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AWAKE (R) (4:00) 6:30 9:30.
Sat & Sun MATINEE 1:15
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (5:00) 7:30 10:10.
Sat & Sun MATINEE 2:00
FRED CLAU (PG) (4:15) 7:00 10:00.
Sat & Sun MATINEE 1:30
AUGUST RUSH (PG) (3:30) 6:15 9:15.
Sat & Sun MATINEE 12:40
HITMAN (R) (5:15) 7:45 10:20 Sat & Sun Mat. 2:15
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4:30 (5:00) 7:00 7:45 9:40 10:20.
Sat & Sun MATINEES 11:30am 12:00 2:00 2:30
► THE GOLDEN COMPASS (PG-13)
3:30 4:15 (5:15) 6:15 7:15 8:00 9:00 10:00 10:40.
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GOLDEN COMPASS (PG-13)
Daily 12:20 1:40 2:45 4:05 5:10
6:30 7:35 8:55 10:00

ENCHANTED (PG)
Daily 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

AUGUST RUSH (PG)
Daily 11:55 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35

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Noelle (PG) ✓
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35

Strength & Honor (R) ✓
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55

Awake (R) ✓
12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:15

No Country for Old Men (R) 12:10, 3:00, 6:00, 8:50

Into the Wild (R) Ends Tu 11:30, 2:45, 6:10, 9:30

Enchanted (PG) 11:40, 1:20, 2:15, 3:50, 4:45,
6:25, 7:20, 9:00, 9:45

This Christmas (PG)
1:45, 4:30, 6:25, 7:15, 9:10, 10:00

August Rush (PG) 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10

Hitman (R) 1:25, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25

The Mist (R) 1:10, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium (G)
11:25, 1:35, 3:55

Beowulf (PG13) 12:40, 3:20, 6:05, 8:45

Fred Claus (PG) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50

Bee Movie (PG) 11:35, 1:50, 4:05, 6:20, 8:40

American Gangster (R) 12:35, 4:10, 7:40

Dan in the Life (PG13) 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45

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Offer 1

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A value like this doesn't come along every day. In fact, we can't promise you'll see this price again any time soon. So we urge you to call your local Miracle-Ear® or Sears Hearing Aid Center today for a free hearing test*. If it turns out that you have a hearing loss**, use the coupon to purchase one AudioChoice Contour hearing aid for the price of—just \$495. The AudioChoice custom made, high quality hearing aid is an exceptional value—one of many you'll find exclusively at Miracle-Ear.

Need another reason to come in today? Consider this: almost 80% of people with reduced hearing clarity have hearing loss in both ears. So there's a good chance that if you need a hearing aid, you really need two. And with our offer, there will never be a better time for you to enjoy all the life-changing benefits of better hearing. In fact, at a price like this, you can't afford not to!

Move up to digital technology and SAVE 50% on your second hearing aid.

Miracle-Ear digital hearing systems offer enhanced sound clarity and reduce distracting background noise, so it's easier to hear in crowded situations like parties and restaurants. Choose ME750 Canal Solution Package and get the second hearing aid for half price. This offer applies to our ME750 Canal hearing aid. See coupon below.

Don't wait—offers expire December 21st. Visit a Miracle-Ear or Sears Hearing Aid Center and save hundreds (or even thousands) of dollars, call for your appointment today!



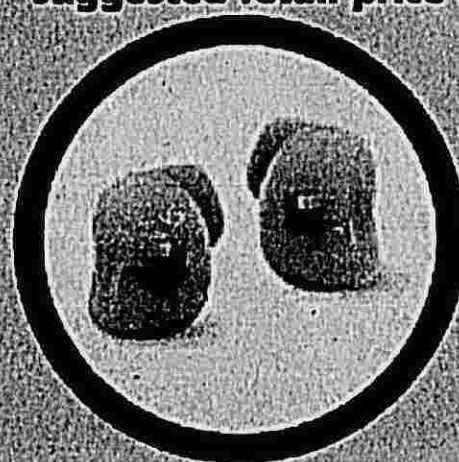
Offer 2

1-888-432-7303

Buy 1, Miracle-Ear 750 Canal fully digital hearing aid and get the 2nd for 50% off!

50% Off

Present this coupon to take advantage of the Buy 1 get the second hearing aid at 50% off. The 50% discount is off the suggested retail price of the second aid and is good for ME750 Canal Solution Package digital hearing system.



Good only from participating Miracle-Ear representatives. One coupon good per purchase. No other offers or discounts apply. Discount does not apply to prior sales. Offer good only on ME750 Canal Solution Package. Does not include AudioChoice hearing aids. Cash value 1/20 cents. Offer expires 12-21-07.

Offer expires December 21, 2007

*Hearing test always free. Not a medical exam. Audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. Test listen available at most locations. Ask your Miracle-Ear representative for details.
**Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences may vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation, proper fit and ability to adapt to amplification.

21 Chicagoland locations available to serve your Hearing Health Needs

Arlington Heights 2306 East Rand Road 847-670-4327
Aurora Sears Fox Valley Center 630-585-5911
Bourbonnais Sears 1602 State Rt. 50 N 815-937-0919
Calumet City Sears River Oaks Plaza 708-891-6168
Chicago Ridge Sears Chicago Ridge Mall 708-499-3480
Crystal Lake Sears 105 Northwest Hwy. 815-788-1405
Chicago Sears Ford City Shopping Ctr. 773-735-3260

Chicago Sears 1601 N. Harlem 773-889-0691
Chicago Sears 4035 North Cicero 773-685-3428
Chicago Sears 6153 S. Western Ave. 773-918-0570
Joliet Sears Louis Joliet Mall 815-577-8332
Matteson Sears Lincoln Mall 708-503-1623
Niles Sears Golf Mill Ctr. 847-803-8162
Oak Brook Sears Oak Brook Ctr. 630-990-0104

Orland Park Sears Orland Square Mall 708-226-5647
Schaumburg Sears Woodfield Mall 847-995-1908
Vernon Hills Sears Westfield/Hawthorne Ctr. 847-816-6838
West Dundee Sears Spring Hill Mall 847-428-1183
Elmhurst Miracle-Ear Center 597 N. York Rd 630-833-8382
Norridge Miracle-Ear Center 4950 N. Cumberland 708-456-2930
Skokie Miracle-Ear Center 3943 W. Dempster Ave. 847-673-3260

Call for your appointment today! **1-888-432-7303**

NIGHT & DAY



Dining & Entertainment Section



Savor summertime flavors at Herm's Bar-B-Q

By LESLIE GLAZIER-WERNER

Summer brings to mind warm breezes, picnics, and tender barbeque. Herm's definitely has the last category covered with its slow cooked, hickory smoked barbeque.

Owner Cary Walker said his father made "the Kentucky kind of barbeque" for "45 to 50 years, catering to churches and family reunions." "I decided to take his recipes and start my own business," naming Herm's after his father, Herman. Walker added that he moved his restaurant from Waukegan to the current location two months ago because of his participation in Antioch's popular "Taste of Summer".

A half-century of barbeque expertise shines through in the pulled pork and barbequed ribs I ordered. Both were tender, moist, and coated with just the right amount of tangy barbeque sauce. As a lunch special, my pulled pork sandwich came with fresh coleslaw, chips, and pop for \$6.95. A carry out dinner of 1/2 slab of ribs came with delicious fries and corn on the cob for \$10.59.

There's a wide range of tasty selections on Herm's menu. Choose from the ribs, hot links, pork, beef brisket, shrimp, catfish, fried chicken wings, or barbequed chicken. A cus-

Herm's Bar-B-Q

311 Depot Station
Antioch, IL 60002
(847) 838-0132

Hours: Monday - Saturday,
11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Entree Prices: \$4.99 - \$17.59

Credit Cards: MasterCard, Visa.

Other: Ample parking, dine in or carry out, catering, children's menu, lunch specials (11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

tomers noted that friends we're "still raving about the barbequed chicken," which was large enough to feed the couple for a week. Herm's is also generous with its side dishes, offering baked beans, coleslaw, corn on the cob, fries, or pizza puffs.

With seating capacity for over 50 in a picnic-like atmosphere, Herm's Bar-B-Q is perfect for an informal meal after a team event or summer activity. And its quick carry out service makes it an ideal stop on the way to catching a train or that next business meeting.

Herm's BAR-B-Q

It's a new Bar-B-Q in Town and the name is Herm's
Delicious Slow Cooked Hickory Smoked Bar-B-Q

311 Depot Station, Antioch, IL 60002
"Catch A Train, Catch A Meal!"
For Faster Service, Call Ahead...847.838.0132

Entrees (Dine In or Carry Out)	
• St. Louis Cut Ribs	• Chicken Wings
• Hot Links	• Pork Shoulder
• Rib Tips	• Catfish Filet
• BBQ Chicken	• Shrimp
• Beef Brisket	

BUFFALO WINGS
Small Order • Larger Order • Party Pans • Full & 1/2 Pans
MADE FRESH TO ORDER

TRY OUR FAST LUNCH...
Vienna Hot Dogs \$1.00 With Trimmings
Chili Dogs • 1/4 lb. Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers
Polish Sausages • French Fries

Vaughan's

For the Finest In Carry-Out Foods

CATER YOUR PARTY WITH US!

Great Snack for Football Game	8 Piece Mixed Chicken Family Meal
40pc Buffalo Wings (Hot, Mild, BBQ or Plain)	Includes heaping order of potatoes, 1/2 side order & 4 biscuits
Only \$19.99	Only \$12.95
Limit One Coupon Per Customer Not valid with other offers Exp. 12.31.07	Not valid with other offers Exp. 12.31.07

2240 GRAND AVE, LINDENHURST
847-265-1860

HOUS: Closed Mondays;
TWTTH 4-9pm, Sat 12-9pm,
Sun 12-7pm

Catering all your Party Needs!
HAND PACKED ICE CREAM IS BACK!

New Location Coming Soon
333 Rt. 45
Lindenhurst
847-265-2441

Wayne's Pizza

The Pizza with the Golden Crust!

Thin Crust • Double Decker • Pan Pizza

Third Lake
On Rt. 45 South of Washington Street
847-223-2441 VISA

Open Sun.-Thur. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

\$3.00 OFF
Any 16" or 18" Pizza

Coupon valid at both locations.
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 12.22.07.

CHANCE & Grill

Saturday Night: STEAK NIGHT!

Great Food at a Fun Place!
Friday/Saturday Karaoke
Friday, Saturday & Monday Night Kids Eat FREE!

• All dining room tables are non smoking.

Buy One Entree. Get Second Entree FREE

Maximum \$4 OFF Breakfast/Lunch
Maximum \$8 OFF Dinner

• Good Thru: 12-30-07
• 1 coupon per table or visit (No Exceptions)
• Not good with any other offer.
• Must purchase beverage of choice

129 Center St • Grayslake
847-223-0082

I Love Sushi

Original Japanese Owned Restaurant
Chef with 30 years experience

FOR LUNCH!

- Full Sushi Bar
- Cocktails & Wine
- Lunch Box Specials
- House Special Roll
- Tuna Tar Tar

Try our famous Mai Tai!

Take Out Available • Catering

BUSINESS HOURS
LUNCH
Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:00pm
DINNER
Mon-Thu 5:00pm-9:30pm
Fri 5:00pm-10:00pm
Sat 4:30pm-10:00pm
Closed Sunday

Gift Cards Available

34121 N. Route 45 and Gages Lake Rd. - Third Lake, IL
Phone: 847.543.1234

BLUE BAY

Family Restaurant

Why Wait For 2008 For Smoke Free When You Can Enjoy Now At Blue Bay

- Special Senior's Menu
- Children's Menu
- Breakfast Lunch and Dinner
- Daily Specials
- Open 7 Days a Week
- Open Friday and Saturday 24 Hours

855 E. Rollins Rd. - Round Lake Beach
(847) 223-0404

Blackthorn Grille

A FINE PLACE TO DRINK AND DINE!

- Appetizers
- Breakfast Saturday & Sunday 8am-Noon
- Lunch & Dinner Menu
- Wonderful Dessert Menu
- Pizzas & Kids Menu

ENTERTAINMENT

- Karaoke Wednesdays
- Irish Music Thursdays

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

- 12.13 Chicago Rovers
- 12.14 Mighty Joe
- 12.15 Alex Hoffer Duo

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday & Monday Football Specials

DELIVERY COMING SOON!

10 West Grand Ave.
Lake Villa, IL
847-356-4400

The Blackthorn Grille is a traditional Irish pub focusing on gourmet meals and a wide variety of top quality wines and beers

Visit our website at: www.blackthorngrille.com

Giorgio's GRILLE

Now Open!

3077 Sheridan Rd
Zion, IL 60099
847-731-2500
Carry-Outs Available

HOUS: M-F 4pm-10pm
Sat 11am-10pm
Sun 11am-9pm

Pasta • Ribs • Pizza • Steaks • Seafood
Broasted Chicken • All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry
Mon-Fridays

BOOK YOUR LUNCHEONS
Private Room Up to 50 People

Come in For a Drink - The Bar Is Now Open!

DIVINO

821 E. Center Street • Grayslake • 847.223.2500
(next to Piggly Wiggly)

Featuring:

- Italian Gelato Made Fresh Daily • Smoothies
- Specialty Coffees • Fine Desserts • Gourmet Pizza
- Stromboli • Calzones • Sandwiches • Salads • & More!

Dine In / Carryout / Delivery

Free Medium Pizza with purchase of a large Pizza

Any catering orders over \$100.00 receives 10% off!

NIGHT & DAY

Dining & Entertainment Section

**LET US DO THE COOKING,
WHILE YOU ENJOY OUR
FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE**

WEDNESDAY
1/2 Price
WINGS
(Dine in only)

Guinness • Harp
Smithwicks • 3rd

Winner Best
Hot Wings
Chicago's
5th Annual
Wingfest

**DOYLE'S
PUB
& EATERY**

**5604 Mill St., (Rt. 12 & Mill St.)
Richmond, IL
(815) 678-3623
doylespubrocks.com**

FRIDAY
Rustic Manor
FISH FRY
\$5 Pitcher (lite)

SATURDAY
• Prime Rib
• Snapper
• Salmon



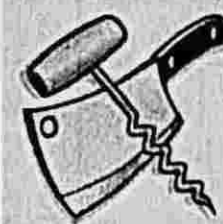
The Holidays are
Around the Corner...
Join us with your
family & friends

- Everyday Buffets
- Holiday Parties
- Weekend Brunches
- Catering
- Banquets



**Zubrzycki's
Warsaw Inn**
POLISH-AMERICAN BUFFET

**217 North Front St., Rt. 31 • McHenry, IL
815-344-0330 www.warsawinn.com**



TONY'S
Butcher Shop & Wine Market

Since 1997

Order Your Holiday MEAT & WINE Now!

Prime Rib (Boneless or Bone In)
Whole Beef Filet
Filet Mignon
Pork Crown Roast
Old Fashioned Hams & Spiral Hams
Leg of Lamb
Sirloin Buffet Roast
King Crab Legs
Lobster Tail
Turkey, All Natural
Duck & Goose

Hess Cabernet Sauvignon
Terlano Pinot Grigio
Au Bon Climat Pinot Noir
Avignonesi "Desiderio" Merlot
Yalumba Shiraz & Grenache
Medusa Zinfandel
Achaval Ferrer Malbec
Chateau de Paranchere Bordeaux
Trevor Jones UnOaked Chardonnay
Henriot Champagne
Warre's Olfina 20yr Tawny Port

209 N. Barron Blvd (Hwy 83, Just North of Center St.) | Grayslake, Illinois | 60030
Phone: 847-543-1960 | www.TonysButcherShop.com

2 lbs Shrimp—\$6.49 Per Pound—No Limit!
This month \$12.98, regular \$14.98 (Sold pre-cooked, frozen, 2 lb Bags)

FOLDOVERS

Something Different

We are an original pizza concept serving unique food with sincere service.
Our FOLDOVERS and Specialties Of The House are our primary entity.

WHAT IS A FOLDOVER?

That's easy to explain. A FOLDOVER is a pizza crust folded over the stuffed with many varieties of tantalizing ingredients then baked in the oven to a golden brown. The crust is then opened. Fresh condiments are piled inside to finish it off! Go ahead and try one today, we know you'll be hooked!!!

<p>FOLDOVERS Something Different</p> <p>Buy Any Large Pizza, Get Any Small FoldOver FREE!</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. One offer per customer, per visit, per day. Offer expires 12/31/07.</small></p>	<p>FOLDOVERS Something Different</p> <p>FREE Order of Garlic Breadsticks With Purchase of \$10.00 or More</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. One offer per customer, per visit, per day. Offer expires 12/31/07.</small></p>	<p>FOLDOVERS Something Different</p> <p>Monday Night Special 2 Medium Foldovers or Pizzas, Garlic Breadsticks & a 2 Liter Of Any Soft Drink For \$24.99</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. One offer per customer, per visit, per day. Offer expires 12/31/07.</small></p>	<p>FOLDOVERS Something Different</p> <p>FREE! Delivery With \$15.00 Purchase or more</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. One offer per customer, per visit, per day. Offer expires 12/31/07.</small></p>
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728 N. Fairfield (134 & Fairfield next to CVS) • 847-740-5200

Lakes Bowl & Sharky's



SNACK BAR • BIRTHDAY PARTIES
BILLIARDS • DARTS • 24 LANES • PRO SHOP



Sunday Bowling Special!
9:00am-10:00pm
Rent-A-Lane \$10.00 per hr
(up to 6 people per lane)



New Video Wall!!!

Watch 6 Different Games At Once.

**\$1.00 Burgers
50¢ Hot Dogs
\$5.00 Domestic Pitchers
Sunday Special**

601 Railroad Ave. ~ Round Lake ~ 847-546-2800



**Call For Carry-Out
847-526-6377**

**Buy 1 Get 1
FREE**

**Buy 1 Entrée Get 1
Equal or Lesser Value Free**

Dine-In Only! Present coupon when ordering.
One coupon per person.
per visit unless specified on offer.
Not valid with other offers or discounts.

**\$5 Off Any
CARRY-OUT
Order of \$25 or more**

One coupon per person.
per visit unless specified on offer.
Not valid with other offers or discounts.

**Let Us Serve You
Lunch Today**

DAILY SPECIALS

TUESDAYS
Buy 1 Get 1 FREE Appetizers
Starts @ 4:00pm

WEDNESDAYS
50¢ Mini Hamburgers
All Day Long

THURSDAYS
10¢ Buffalo Wings
Starts @ 4:00pm

FRIDAYS
25¢ Tacos
3:00 to 6:00pm

\$5 Lunch Menu

Served Monday-Friday 11:00am-4:00pm
Sideouts Burger Macaroni & Cheese
Sloppy Joe Soup & Salad
Tuna Wrap Turkey Sandwich
Sorry no substitutions on the \$5 menu

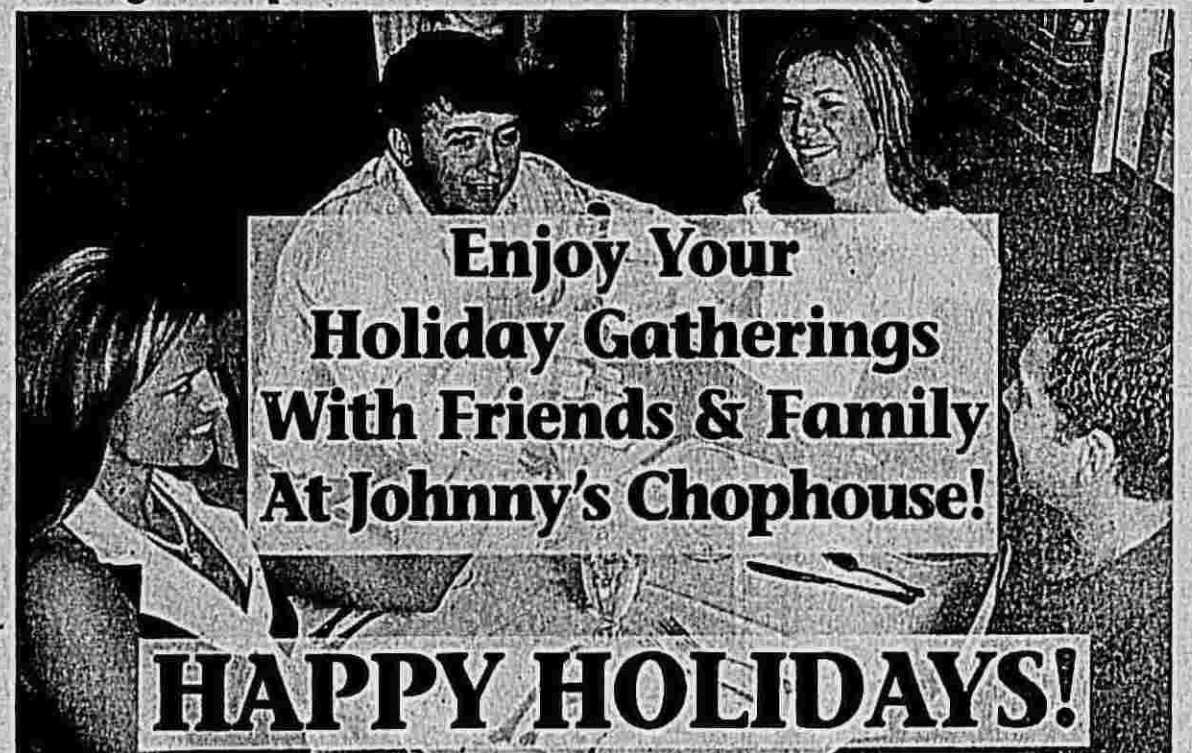
**New Fall
Wine
List**

**Johnny's
CHOPHOUSE**

STEAKS • SEAFOOD • PASTA • BURGERS

**Open
7 Days**

Serving An Upscale Menu In A Casual Dining Atmosphere



**Enjoy Your
Holiday Gatherings
With Friends & Family
At Johnny's Chophouse!**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

AT THE BAR

(Dine in only)

MONDAY

25¢ Wings
(multiples of 10)

TUESDAY

1/2 Price 10oz.
Steak Burgers w/ff

WEDNESDAY

1/2 Price
Appetizers

THURSDAY

25¢ Wings
(multiples of 10)

Monday

1/2 Price bottles of wine w/dinner
(pay for 2 glasses and get 4)

Friday

Perch, Walleye, Pike

Icelandic Cod fish fry

Friday & Saturday

Flown in fresh fish

Slow roasted prime rib

Let us host your

birthday party, rehearsal dinner, baby shower, bridal shower,
baptism, graduation & 1st communion

Sunday Buffet Brunch from 10am-3pm

Adults \$12.95 • 10 & Under \$7.95

KIDS Under 5 EAT FREE!

(with purchase of an adult brunch)

Bagels, danishes, muffins, soup, salad, bread, foccacia,
peel-n-eat shrimp, smoked salmon, bacon, sausage,
scrambled eggs, american fries, eggs benedict, french toast,
biscuits sausage & gravy, garlic mashed, vegetables, pasta,
chicken, fish, bbq ribs, carving station, waffle & omelet
station, sweet table & fresh fruit.

1500 Main Street • Antioch, IL • 847-838-2015

www.johnnyschophouse.com

DAILY SPECIALS

Lunch Starting at \$6.95

Dinner Starting at
\$13.95

Big Jack's Family Owned & Operated
CHICAGO STYLE RED HOTS CATERING AVAILABLE

Italian Beef
Maxwell St. Polish
Hot Dogs
Italian Sausage
Sub Sandwiches
Fresh Cut Fries
BIG Burgers
Chili
Tamales
Italian Ice

HOT DOG & FRIES 1.99
Limit 1 with 1st order
valid Mon-Sat 3:00pm-11:00pm

10% off CATERING
\$100 or more
ends Jan 31st

Family Pack
2 BEEFS
2 HOT DOGS
2 FRIES
2 MED DRINKS
\$18.95
valid Mon-Sat

3 foot Italian SUB Sandwich
\$24.99
SERVES 6-8 PEOPLE

Corner of Main & Washington Street - Round Lake Park
CALL YOUR ORDERS IN AT: (847) 548-5225 (JACK)

Winter Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:30 am - 7:00 pm & Sunday 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

SUDOKU

CROSSWORD

VERY EASY

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ACROSS

- Pea shell
- Slavs
- Tooth caregiver
- Winglike
- Seaport in Cameroon
- Macaws
- Gambling town
- Among the largest bony fish
- Just acquired
- Spherical
- Capital of Venezuela
- Expires
- Got stuck
- Hanks TV show
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Soft, creamy white cheese
- Not intoxicated
- Light: hermetical
- Before
- International defense organization
- Beloveds
- Draws from
- Distilled from fermented molasses
- Reference
- One to whom money is paid
- Original matter
- In a fake way
- Expressed pleasure
- Lilly, drug company
- Monetary unit in Yemen
- Romanian city
- Blot
- Small lizard of the Old World
- Boxing champ Spinks
- juris: sane
- Chick-pea plant
- Gas usage measurement

DOWN

- Young salmon
- Vegetable oil spread
- Irish mother of gods
- South Dakota
- Portuguese
- Drive against
- A group of countries in special alliance
- Highly spiced fatty sausage
- Tap or ballet

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

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>> Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS – Nov. 23/Dec. 21
You have to act on your relationships this week, Sagittarius, not just think about them.

CAPRICORN – Dec. 22/Jan. 20
This week is great for building social connections with the people you don't often see, Capricorn.

AQUARIUS – Jan. 21/Feb. 18
Aquarius, this week should be reserved for taking care of your own needs.

ing care of your own needs.

PISCES – Feb. 19/March 20
You deserve to splurge, Pisces, so go right ahead. You're on sure footing this week and can afford to be spontaneous and frivolous.

ARIES – March 21/April 20
Aries, try to be clearer in your communication. Others find your messages garbled and have trouble following along.

trouble following along.

TAURUS – April 21/May 21
Get together with coworkers and discuss your shared interests, Taurus. It could lead to better work relationships – and perhaps friendships.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
You'll find that people seem a little "denser" this week, so be clear with your intentions, Gemini.

CANCER – June 22/July 22
Cancer, so many things in your life will be shifting, but now is not the time to question why.

LEO – July 23/Aug. 23
Life is very subjective. Where one person sees trash, the other sees treasure, Leo.

VIRGO – Aug. 24/Sept. 22
Virgo, you remain one of the most organized

people at your place of work, and it's a good thing because you keep everyone else on track.

LIBRA – Sept. 23/Oct. 23
There's a slowdown at work, and you're patience will be pushed to the limit, Libra.

SCORPIO – Oct. 24/Nov. 22
Expect to enjoy life a whole lot more this week, Scorpio.

>> EveryMom



Jami Kunzer

Memories of motherhood

I get sappy at Christmas. Add this to my being about seven months pregnant, and you've got yourself one emotional, moody mess.

I figure this emotional state gives me every excuse for the following moments when I know I'm lucky to be a mom.

• When my daughter wakes me up with a weather report.

"Look, mommy. Look outside," she exclaims. "Look at the snow!"

She pulls out her snowsuit and plans how she's going to play in the snow later.

She's just so excited that I just want to capture that scene in my memory forever. So that one day, when she's older, I can pull it out and feel as lucky as I do today to have been there to experience it.

• When Lilly and Anna, my nearly 2-year-old twin girls, bring their blankets to me and climb on my lap.

As they cuddle in, I can still hold them like babies, not the toddlers they've become. I can put off even longer those days when, right before my eyes, they'll slowly transform into little girls. And I'll wonder how they grew up so quickly.

• Just after a bath, when all three of my children run around the house naked.

I could go on and on, but these moments are basically just reminders. No matter how much I want the next couple of months to fly by, I also could stand to slow down a little.

• Columnist Jami Kunzer is the mother of Summer, 4, and 1-1/2-year-old twins Anna and Lilly. She writes about the everyday challenges facing parents. You can connect with Kunzer online through her blog, which can be found at NWHerad.com. Reach Kunzer at jkunzer@nwnewsgroup.com or 815-459-4122.

Total Furniture

8400 75th Street (Hwy. 50) Kenosha, WI



Furniture Man's Incredible Holiday Sale!

LET FURNITURE MAN HELP YOU BUY A LASTING GIFT FOR THE HOME

OPEN FOUR...TO SAVE YOU MORE!

Friday 10-9 • Saturday 9-6 • Sunday 11-6 • Monday 10-9

Hot Buy! Five Piece Contemporary Style Living Room Group

Beautifully coordinated room group. Features wood trim, durable textured fabric and side pillows. Matching tables.

Five Pieces Include:
• Sofa • Loveseat
• Cocktail Table
• Two End Tables

Total's Everyday Low Price **\$1099**

Visit Our Discount Showroom. Great Selection on Display. All Discounted.

Posturepedic Super Plush Special Purchase Blowout!

Save \$200

0% For Two Long Years!

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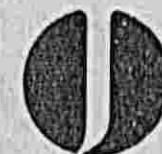
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PREP SCHEDULE: Warren's boys basketball team heads to Champaign, while wrestling tournaments will make for a busy Saturday. **PAGE 9B**

KADUK: Get the over/under for Chicago sports, including comparing how many rushing yards each Adrian Peterson will rack up. **PAGE 9B**

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Carmel opts for slowed-down pace against Marian Catholic, but still comes up short. **PAGE 12B**

>> Sidelines



Daniel J. Patrick

Don't be shy, be proud

Sports Web sites are about as addictive as a morning coffee for me. I can't so much as wake up for a productive day without some caffeine in my body and a few sports Web sites in front of my eyes.

But as I was reading on the Chicago Bears Web site, I read something that was a little disheartening.

On the Web site, it spoke about "playing for pride" as some sort of doomsday sentence.

As a chigobears.com article said, "Determined to return to the Super Bowl and win it, the Bears never dreamed that they would spend the final three weeks of the season playing only for pride. But that appears to be the sad scenario after Thursday night's deflating 24-16 loss to the Washington Redskins."

Sure, as a Bears fan, I hoped to make another trip to a Chicago Super Bowl. I wanted to see the Monsters of the Midway break the streak of Super Bowl losers.

But the wording that condemned playing for pride as a "sad scenario" was not something I wanted to see. What kind of message is this sending to our prep athletes?

Is "playing just for pride" really all that bad? Isn't that what every prep athlete is doing?

They're not playing for millions of dollars like pro athletes. They're not childishly mugging for camera shots like Devin Hester. And they're not solely playing for some far-off trophy.

Sure, a state championship would be a great patch on the ol' letterman jacket of any high school athlete. But for so many, it's simply not going to be a reality.

For most, a regional title won't be a reality. Heck, some teams are just fighting for an elusive first win.

So what are they playing for? Pride. They're playing for pride in themselves, pride in their schools, and even the pride of their families. I think that's a much higher goal than some pro team reaching for a bonus check of a championship game.

High school athletes aren't playing to get better contracts. They aren't ever going to get shoes named after them along with a million-dollar check to go with it.

Too bad pride isn't good enough for pro sports.

• Daniel J. Patrick is the sports editor for the Lake County Journals. Write to him at dpatrick@nwnewsgroup.com. For more, read his blog, "Lake County Sports: A real local blog by the REAL Dan Patrick," at LakeCountyJournals.com/blogs/lakecountysports.

>> Hockey

Hockey clubs breakaway

Lake County hockey teams see numbers increase

By JESSICA JACOBSEN
jjacobsen@nwnewsgroup.com

Slap Shot

The NHL fan base might have taken a hit when the 2004-05 NHL lockout resulted in an entire season without the sport, but that stigma does not surround Lake County's teams.

The number of high school-aged participants continues to grow. Programs that once were combined are becoming pure teams.

Mundelein High School and Carmel Catholic High School previously were a combined club, but as the number of participants grew the schools were able to split into two pure teams this year.

"There turned out to be too many kids, so it was in the best interest of both schools," said Sandy Garrity, Mundelein's team manager.

Andy Kleiner, the Mundelein team president, said a lot of work went into forming the pure team, including meeting with Perry Wilhelm, Mundelein's athletic director.

"[We] met with him to see what the school could do for us," Kleiner said.

Because hockey is not a sanctioned sport at Mundelein, Kleiner said, the program had another task to handle. The club had to decide whether to become a junior varsity or varsity squad.

Twenty-one students are on the Mustangs hockey club, with all but about five of them being underclassmen. With a majority of the players being sophomores or younger, Kleiner said, the team opted to become junior varsity.

Another task Mundelein decided to tackle was creating a nonprofit corporation for the team. Kleiner said by being nonprofit, the team can host fundraisers.

"[It's] to keep our costs down," he said.

Though the boys miss playing with their former teammates, Garrity said, the split has brought about a new connection with the school.

"They really love it ... it gives you a certain amount of pride [to play for your school]," she added.

Splitting up the teams also has developed a new rivalry.

But, Kleiner said, it's a good one because of the friendships between the players and the friendships between the parents.

The two prep club hockey teams faced each other the first game of the season, which was back in September.

The game ended in a 2-2 tie.

But the second meeting in November ended

This week and next, the Lake County Journals will offer a two-part series to provide readers with a better understanding of what hockey programs the area has to offer.

• Dec. 13: Breakaway clubs: As more hockey players come out to play, schools

with Carmel earning the first win in the new rivalry in a 4-2 final.

"There's definitely a little more intensity," Kleiner said.

Mixing it up

Though pure club hockey teams are forming every year, many clubs still maintain a multiple school make-up. In 2001, Grayslake Community High School formed a joint team with Antioch Community High School.

The forming of the junior varsity Ramquoits came after Warren Township High School, Grayslake's former partner, formed a pure team, said Ken Karasek, the Ramquoits president.

With the growing population in Lake County, Grayslake and Antioch both had second high schools develop in the school districts.

District 127 is now Grayslake Central High School and Grayslake North High School, while District 117 is Antioch Community High School and Lakes Community High School.

Even with the four schools, the Ramquoits have stayed together.

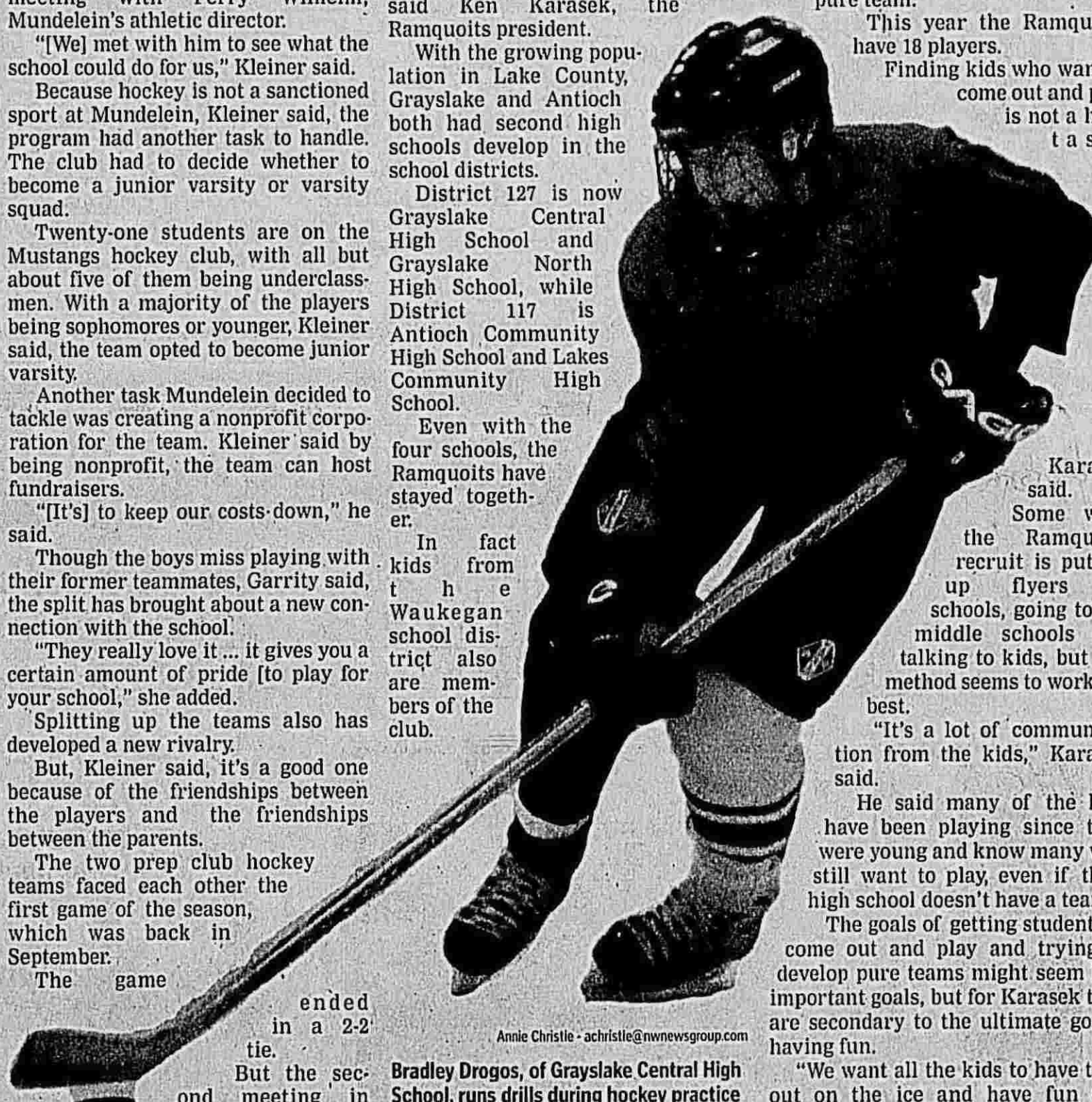
In fact kids from the Waukegan school district also are members of the club.

He said many of the kids have been playing since they were young and know many who still want to play, even if their high school doesn't have a team.

The goals of getting students to come out and play and trying to develop pure teams might seem like important goals, but for Karasek they are secondary to the ultimate goal — having fun.

"We want all the kids to have time out on the ice and have fun and learn," he said.

Ken Karasek
President of the Ramquoits



Annie Christie - achristie@nwnewsgroup.com

Bradley Drogos, of Grayslake Central High School, runs drills during hockey practice for the Ramquoits on Dec. 8.

"We want all the kids to have time out on the ice and have fun and learn."

>> Football

In Koz we trust

Wauconda residents back Kozlowski

By STEVE PETERSON
speterson@nwnewsgroup.com

WAUCONDA — Although they had to give up watching Glen Kozlowski's former team, the Bears, play, more than 25 audience members made their presence felt at the Dec. 6 Wauconda Community Unit District 118 Board of Education meeting.

The crowd stated it wants Kozlowski be allowed to coach again next fall. Kozlowski was not at the meeting as he was working the Bears game for WGN radio. Kozlowski was praised for bringing the Bulldogs from a long losing streak to the playoffs this year.

District officials said they agreed with the crowd's sentiments. Wauconda High School Athletic Director Jim Van Fleet said that there will be no changes in the coaching staff for 2008.

Still, dozens appeared at that meeting to express support for Kozlowski.

A petition signed by more than 500 residents was in support of Kozlowski. The Bulldogs were 7-3 last year. Wauconda lost to Belvidere in the first round of the playoffs.

Sharon Wisniewski, mother of running back Brad Wisniewski, read a statement during public comment, stating that she hopes the present football leadership stays in place.

"There has been no one more dedicated to advancing this program and to ensuring this year's success than our head coach Glen Kozlowski, fondly referred to as Coach Koz," she read.

Resident Keith Carlson asked about the school district's policies on expectations for coaches and how they are evaluated.

"In the 10 years that I have been on the board, seldom has there been a need to overturn an administrator's decision. The school board does not exist except for the times that we meet," President John Armstrong said. "Hiring and firing is not our job as board members."



Glen Kozlowski
Wauconda Bulldogs football coach

QuickHitters



Ryan Lund

Ryan Lund - Grayslake Central

There's nothing better than being first. And Grayslake Central's Ryan Lund got to feel the joy of being first at the Wheeling Tournament. Lund recorded championship win against Tyler Leprete, of Sandburg, in the 135-pound match.



Sarah Boothe

Sarah Boothe - Warren

Warren's Sarah Boothe continues to impress. This time, in a 60-17 win against Zion-Benton, she tallied 19 points and seven rebounds. The next night, Boothe put up 20 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Blue Devils in a win against eighth-ranked Lake Park.

To nominate a student athlete for Quick Hitters please send submissions to Daniel J. Patrick at dpatrick@nwnewsgroup.com.

GameOfTheWeek



Warren Blue Devils



New Trier Trevians

What: Boys Basketball
Where: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
When: 3:45 p.m. Dec. 15

Fighting Illini coach Bruce Weber won't have to schedule any 6 a.m. open gyms to check out Warren players. The Blue Devils and New Trier will head to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for what promises to be a good game. If you can make the drive, come on down and check out two state powerhouses get to go at it in a Division I college gym.

Slow and steady



Annie Christie - achristie@nwnewsgroup.com

Carmel's Beth Scudder drives to the basket during the second half of a game against Marian Catholic. Carmel might have slowed down the game, but Marian Catholic still won 33-13. To read more, see PAGE 12B.

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>> Upcoming Games

Thursday, Dec. 13

Girls Basketball

Grant at Elgin, 7:15 p.m.
Lakes at Wauconda, 7 p.m.
Vernon Hills at Antioch, 7 p.m.

Wrestling

Grayslake Central at McHenry, 7 p.m.
Antioch at Vernon Hills, 5:30 p.m.
Warren at Stevenson, 5:30 p.m.

Bowling

Lakes at Wauconda, 4:30 p.m.
Grayslake Central at McHenry, 4:30 p.m.

Boys Swimming

Warren at Stevenson, 5 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

Boys Basketball

Carmel at St. Joseph, 7:30 p.m.
Grant at North Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Wauconda at Zion-Benton, 7:30 p.m.
Vernon Hills at Antioch, 7:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Warren, 7:30 p.m.
Round Lake at Lakes, 7:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball

Grayslake Central at McHenry, 7 p.m.

Wrestling

Glenbrook South Tournament, 3:30 p.m.
Harvard Invite, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Boys Basketball

Carmel at Nazareth Academy, 7:30 p.m.
Jacobs at Grayslake Central, 7 p.m.
Lakes at Wauconda, 7:30 p.m.
North Chicago at Antioch, 7:30 p.m.
Warren vs. New Trier at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 3:45 p.m.

Girls Basketball

Lakes vs. Grayslake North at Woodstock, 10:30 a.m.
Lakes vs. Harvard at Woodstock, 1:30 p.m.
Fenwick at Carmel, 6:30 p.m.
Libertyville at Warren, 2:30 p.m.

Wrestling

Glenbrook South Tournament, 10 a.m.
Grayslake Central at Mundelein, 9 a.m.
Harvard Invite, 9:30 a.m.

>> Views

Over/under not in Chicago's favor

The name of the game is over/under. As always, all figures are provided for entertainment purposes only.

Football

300 - Rushing yards gained by Vikings' Adrian Peterson in next Monday's game against the Bears.

44 - Rushing yards gained by Bears' Adrian Peterson in same contest.

0.5 - Times Lovie Smith will be shown on TV while actually talking into his headset.

150 - Columns you'll read in the next week about how great Kyle Orton was as a starter in 2005.

0.5 - Reminders you'll read that Bears fans actually were excited to see Rex Grossman replace Orton during that Sunday night game against Atlanta in 2005.

5 - False start penalties committed by Bears' offensive line in each of remaining three games.

50 - Percent chance Grossman will sign elsewhere in the offseason, avoiding rebuilding process on the offensive line and in the receiving corps.

\$10,000 - Amount disbursed by Mike Ditka's "Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund" to needy NFL veterans in 2008.

10 - Angry news conferences with Ditka in '08, with NFL Players Association head Gene Upshaw and his stingy ways being the main targets.

8 - Occasions today that the Packers fan in the next cubicle will talk about how Brett Favre and Co. clinched the NFC North title.

8 - Occasions the Dallas transplant in the cubicle next to that same Packers fan will talk about how the road to the NFC Championship still goes through the Lone Star State.

8 - Occasions that you, the Bears fan, will try changing the topic to Devin Hester and/or the Blackhawks.

Baseball

100 - Additional times between now and Opening Day that White Sox GM Kenny Williams will promise his team is vying for the 2008 World Series.

0.5 - Times you'll believe him.

10 - Different pitchers the Sox will try at the fifth starter position, bringing back bad



Kevin Kaduk

memories from the 2003 season.

98 - Wins in '08 for the suddenly stacked Tigers.

73 - Wins in '08 for the complacent White Sox.

12 - Players on Cubs' Opening Day roster who will play second base or shortstop.

2 - Motivational tantrums thrown by Lou Piniella after another slow start to the season.

84 - Wins in '08 for the strangely quiet Cubs.

\$345 - Face value price of a Wrigley Field bleacher ticket in the year 2020.

\$10 - Price you'll be able to buy same ticket on the street 15 minutes after game time* (Presuming Cubs have ensured 112th straight year without a World Series title.)

Basketball

20,000 - Fans who will still show up to United Center to watch the Bulls, regardless of record or play.

300 - Columns you'll read second-guessing John Paxson's decision not to trade for Kobe Bryant before the season, even though not everyone in the media wanted the Lakers star here in town.

12 - Cable TV networks that are missing out on a great opportunity in a Joakim Noah-Scott Skiles reality TV show. (Also applicable to Tyrus Thomas-Skiles venture.)

Hockey

35 - Blackhawks home games televised by Comcast in '08.

Three weeks - Time before team president John McDonough springs another marketing coup by bringing Wayne Messmer back into the National Anthem mix.

One year - Time before McDonough shocks Chicago by freeing Pat Foley from his exile in Rosemont.

Kevin Kaduk is the Northwest NewsGroup's sports columnist. Write to him at kkaduk@nwnewsgroup.com For more, read his blog, "Duk's Calls," at NW Herald.com/kaduk.

WEEKLY PLANNER

TEAM	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
				at Minnesota 7:30 p.m. ESPN, AM-780			
		at Buffalo 6 p.m. AM-670	FLORIDA 6 p.m. AM-670			NASHVILLE 7:30 p.m. AM-670	
	NEW YORK 7:30 p.m. CSN, AM-1000				L.A. LAKERS 7:30 p.m. WCIU, AM-1000	at Washington 6 p.m. WCIU, AM-1000	
	at Peoria 7 p.m. Comcast Local	at Iowa 6 p.m. Comcast Local				PEORIA 7 p.m. Comcast Local	
	at Milwaukee 7 p.m. AM-1200 (Spanish)	MILWAUKEE 7 p.m. AM-1200 (Spanish)					

>> Boys Basketball: Lakes 74, Grant 64

Treys on parade at Lakes

Trey Williams' three-point threat leads Eagles in win

By STEVE PETERSON
speterson@nwnewsgroup.com

FOX LAKE - Much like the Chicago Bears, Lakes is having a hard time following up last year's successes. But after back-to-back wins, they could be back on the right track.

Lakes High senior Trey Williams simply had one of those nights for the Eagles - scoring 37 points, half of his team's 74 against Grant (62, 1-1).

The Eagles were able to hold off the Bulldogs 74-64 in a two-game weekend sweep. Lakes (3-4, 1-1) also downed Carmel, 55-44. But more importantly for the Eagles, they proved that they can win without Kevin Guirand.

Guirand has been Lakes' go-to guy as he's

been averaging more than 20 points a game. But after being sidelined with a foot injury he suffered in a win against Carmel, it was Williams' time to shine.

"After the first couple or three, I was confident," Williams said. "We did not have Kevin Guirand, but he was there for us, cheering us on. It feels good to win here."

Williams came close but was just shy Sean Hertz's school record of 40 points.

Grant coach Phil Ralston was not pleased with his team's defensive performance.

"It would have helped if we had run the defense that we practiced," Ralston said. "You can't wait until four minutes are left in the fourth quarter to play hard. We got beat in the first quarter, but Lakes did a tremendous job."

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Signature Flooring & Design offers service and selection

By LESLIE GLAZIER-WERNER

With so many options to choose from, purchasing new flooring can be overwhelming. That's where Signature Flooring & Design's professional sales staff makes all the difference. According to President Tim Miller, every Signature sales professional has at least 10 years experience in the flooring industry. As a result, he or she has the expertise to help you find just the right product for your needs.

Visit either of Signature Flooring & Design's showrooms and sales staff will help you choose from a complete line of flooring products from leading manufacturers, such as Armstrong, Bigelow, Bruce, and Mohawk. Miller said Signature has large, 3-foot by 7-foot hardwood displays so "you can get a feel for how the wood will look in your home." And since Signature buys by the truckload, "we can offer the customer competitive pricing," Miller added.

"Our level of service is our trademark," said Miller. "Schedule an appointment to have your floors measured and we'll give you a quote right then and there. And with material in stock,

we can jump on a job quickly."

Signature Flooring & Design also prides itself on its professional, courteous installation crews. Miller said their family-run business values quality workmanship. "We're known for our installations because we get the job done right and treat your home with respect."

In addition, Signature's emphasis on service is reflected in the lack of an automated phone system, despite the company's growth. "We personally answer our phones so that the customer doesn't have to wait," Miller said.

Signature Flooring & Design can also help make your new flooring a reality with financing. Make no payments and pay no interest for 12 months is always available. Other special promotions are offered throughout the year, such as their current offer of Heartland hardwood flooring for just \$5.88/square foot installed.

So it's no surprise that Signature Flooring & Design receives an abundance of testimonials to a job well done. Tim Miller said that's why the company's motto is, "You're gonna love your new floors, you have my signature on it."

Signature Flooring & Design

www.signatureflooring.org
315 W. Rollins Rd.
Round Lake Beach, IL 60073
(847) 740-2700

Hours: Monday & Thursday, 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday & Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Sunday, Closed.

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Established: 1989

Area Served: Lake, Cook, McHenry counties.

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Services: Residential/commercial installation of hardwood, ceramic tile, laminate flooring and carpeting.

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>> Girls Basketball: Marian Catholic 33, Carmel 13

Carmel creates an icy situation

Corsairs slow pace upsets Marian Catholic coach

By DANIEL J. PATRICK
dpatrick@nwnewsgroup.com

MUNDELEIN - What should have been an everyday afternoon girls basketball game turned into a spectacle. But probably not the kind of spectacle that the average fan wants to see.

It was a classic David vs. Goliath basketball scenario. David (Carmel) wants to keep the game close by slowing down the pace of the game. The Corsairs were so good at controlling the pace that they held the ball for the entire second quarter.

In fact, the Corsairs never even took a shot. Instead, Carmel guards Aubrey Simmons and Kelly Schoen took turns passing the ball to each other in what resulted in a 33-13 Marian Catholic win.

"[Carmel's] girls play hard; it's unfortunate that they were instructed to play that way," Marian Catholic coach Annie Basic said.

Carmel fell to 5-3, 1-1 in the East Suburban Catholic Conference.

While Basic was displeased with Carmel's tactics, Corsair coach John Ryan defended his scheme.

"Our strategy was to shorten the game," Ryan said. "We figured if we could shorten the game, we could have an opportunity. ... [Basic] can be as upset as she wants to be, but I'm out there to help my kids win the game."

Ryan said he chose the scheme not just because of Marian Catholic's impressive résumé, but also because of Carmel's lack of players. With only eight players manning the roster and the team's top scorers, Caitlin Hendricks and Lauren Lehocky out, he said, Carmel had no choice but to



Annie Christie - achristie@nwnewsgroup.com

Carmel's Tiffany Hendrickson drives past Marian Catholic's Jasmine Matthews during a game against Marian Catholic

slow the game down.

And slow it was with 10-4 halftime score, and the Corsairs didn't even reach double digits until 3:07 left in the game.

"That was interesting. But [Coach Ryan] had a really good point. ... He had a strategy," Carmel's Danielle Prigge said. "It was confusing at first, but eventually, we all figured it out, and it completely made sense."

While it might have made sense to Prigge and the ones wearing Carmel uniforms, it sure didn't to Basic.

"I'm not saying he shouldn't use strategy, but let's play," Basic said. "Otherwise, why did we drive an hour and a half?"

Icing in the past

While Basic and the fans were stunned by the slow pace of the game, such a scheme is hardly new in prep basketball.

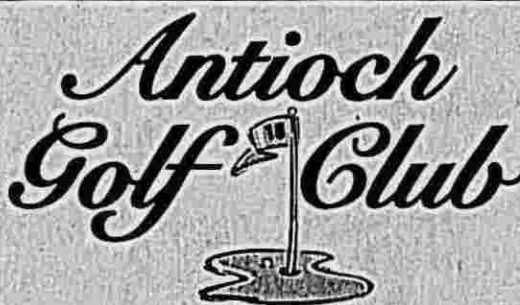
Such a game brought back memories of a 1986 game between Chicago Young and Chicago Farragut Academy with a 3-0 Chicago Young win. That year, Whitney Young was a major power, while Farragut was down in the dumps.

In the teams' first matchup, both teams lived up to their respective reputations as Chicago Young destroyed Chicago Farragut 170-22. As retribution, Farragut iced the game, which goes down as the second-lowest scoring game in Illinois High School Association girls basketball history.



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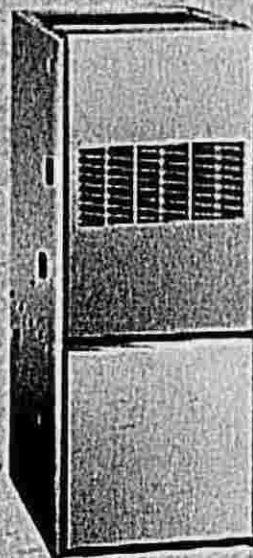
Ultimate Gymnastics take home meet

Ultimate Gymnastics of Gurnee had much to celebrate when two of their competitive levels took first place team at the gym's home meet. Both the Level 5 and the Level 9 girls teams

claimed the top spot at the meet, which this year was held for the first time at the Woodland Middle School. In addition, the Level 8 girls took second place and the level 7s came in third in their respective sessions.

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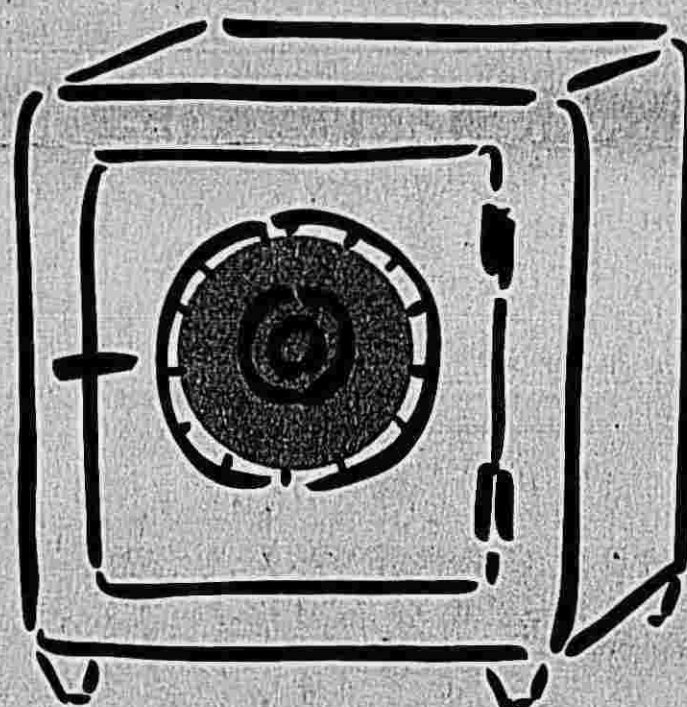
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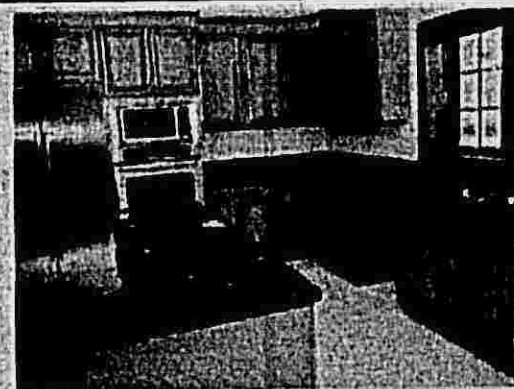
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Low-cost home improvement ideas

(NAPSA)-It may be easier and less expensive than you realize to make your home more livable and more valuable.

According to the Appraisal Institute, investing in a paint job and new carpets can easily increase the value of your home. Creating more living space, such as converting a basement into a family room, is also worth considering.

The Institute adds that bedrooms and bathrooms are particularly important because they affect how many people can comfortably live in a home.

Cook Up A New Kitchen

According to Remodeling magazine, a major kitchen renovation can cost \$54,000. If you'd like to give your kitchen a new look for a lot less, says home improvement expert Pat Simpson, host of HGTV's "Fix it Up!," you should replace the hardware on the doors and drawers. Lighting will easily enhance a kitchen's appearance, too. Remove the fluorescent fixtures and hang pendant lights over islands.

A Bathroom With Personality

A bathroom remodeling project can also cost tens of thousands of dollars. Simpson has a better idea. For a few hundred dollars, install a new tile floor. In many cases, tile can be laid right over an existing floor. Consider replacing a large plated mirror with a framed one.

Go to the Wall

To Renovate Your Closet

"Many homeowners who make improvements to their master bedroom closets spend thousands of dollars on unique shelves and drawers, in an attempt to get organized, but forget about the walls," says Simpson. "You can really dress up your master bedroom closet with cedar planks. And don't forget to line those drawers with cedar to protect your folded clothes."

A cedar closet not only looks and smells great, it repels and resists moths, roaches, silverfish and mildew. It's also safer than mothballs.

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For more tips and information, you can visit www.cedarsafeclosets.com.

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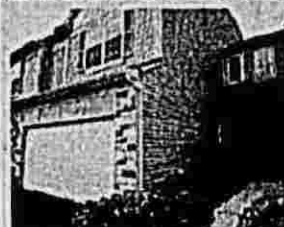
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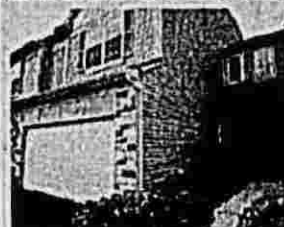
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IMMACULATE RANCH

3 bedroom, 2 bathroom Ranch with full English basement, and 2.5 car attached garage. Large great room featuring a brick fireplace flanked by palladium windows, private master bath with separate whirlpool/shower, lower level with finished office or 4th bedroom, patio, deck and oversized lot.

An Rx for comfort and cost savings all winter long

(NAPSA)-With the U.S. Department of Energy predicting that the price for heating oil and natural gas will continue to remain high this winter due to lower inventories and increased demand expected in much of the country, it is especially important for homeowners to take action now to ensure that their houses are energy efficient.

To help homeowners combat high utility bills during the cooler months, James and Morris Carey, authors of "Home Maintenance for Dummies," suggest the following practical tips for winterizing your home, minimizing energy loss and maximizing your comfort this winter.

Examining the Exterior

Begin by examining the home's exterior walls for cracks or holes, paying extra attention to gaps around external doors and windows where warm indoor air can escape or cold air can seep inside. Because 10 to 15 percent of heat loss occurs from cracks of this nature, the Carey brothers suggest sealing air leaks with caulk or weather stripping.

While outside, homeowners should also inspect the roof to ensure that all shingles are intact and flashings around chimneys, skylights, antennas and vents

are well sealed.

"With high winds, snow and ice, the winter months can be particularly strenuous on the roof of a house," said James Carey. "Be sure to replace broken, curled or missing shingles, and use roof caulking to patch any holes to prevent heat loss before cold weather begins."

Finally, homeowners should consider planting a few trees and shrubs of various heights to serve as windbreaks that will protect the house from cold, northerly winds. In fact, the Department of Energy estimates that home landscaping designed with "wind control" in mind can reduce winter heating bills by 25 percent.

Inspecting the Interior

Continue your winter preparations by heading indoors and scheduling an appointment with a qualified heating professional to inspect the home's heating system. According to the Carey brothers, an annual, pre-season maintenance checkup for a furnace or boiler will help ensure that the system is operating efficiently. This will also give you extra time to make any necessary repairs, if needed, or consider replacing the system, ultimately reducing the potential for a

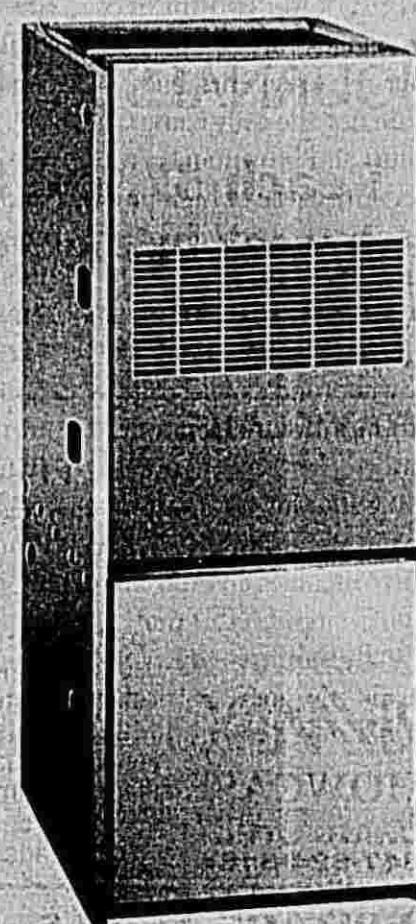
breakdown in the middle of winter.

"If your furnace is more than 15 years old, you should consider replacing it with a newer, more energy-efficient model," said Morris Carey. "New, high-efficiency furnaces, such as those manufactured by Lennox, can help cut monthly heating costs by as much as 45 percent."

In fact, the Dave Lennox Signature Collection G61V variable-speed gas furnace is 95 percent efficient, which means 95 percent of the energy it uses goes directly to heating the home. That can save homeowners hundreds of dollars each year compared to older, less efficient furnaces.

In addition to the home heating system, homeowners need to have fireplaces and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually. It's also important to close the fireplace damper when not in use to prevent warm indoor air from escaping through the chimney.

Finally, take a look inside the attic to determine if additional insulation is needed. The amount of insulation needed will vary based on the region of the country and the home's design, but generally, if there is less than five inches, it's a good idea to add more.



A new, efficient furnace can save homeowners hundreds of dollars each year compared to an older, less efficient furnace.

To learn more about home energy efficiency and how to save money on utility bills, visit www.ItPaysToLiveSmart.com.

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55 Yr Old	\$71	\$43

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Is a standby generator right for your home?

(NAPSA)-Over two-thirds of power outages are caused by weather-related events, but these are not the only causes. Blackouts and brownouts can also occur because of high power usage, aging electrical grid systems and other unpredictable forces. To cope with power outages, an increasing number of homeowners and small-business owners install standby power generators.

A home standby power system ranging in size from 12 to 125 kilowatts includes an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) that continually monitors utility power and transfers electrical loads from the utility to the generator when power is lost. The ATS reverses the process and

shuts down the generator automatically once utility power resumes.

A standby generator is permanently installed outside a home and wired into household circuits using the home's current fuel source. With installation provided by a licensed electrical contractor and little maintenance required by the homeowner, a standby generator is a hands-off option for automatic backup power during an outage.

A standby generator can be set up to run selected appliances or to power an entire house during a power outage, providing productivity, safety and peace of mind.

Consider the following to help determine if a home standby

generator is right for you:

- **Everyday appliances.** A standby generator can power electric heat in cold weather and air conditioning in a hot climate. Sump pumps, refrigerators, lights, televisions, radios, cordless telephones and even electrically operated wells also require power. Other modern-day conveniences such as electronic security systems, garage door openers and home theaters can also be powered by a standby generator.

- **Lifestyle and occupation.**

The elderly, families caring for infants and people who rely on home medical devices should strongly consider installing a standby generator to provide backup power during a power outage. It may also be a good in-

vestment for those who run a business or work from home and anyone who regularly depends on electronic information or electrically operated machinery.

- **Personal hobbies.** Many personal activities and hobbies require electricity. These include maintaining tropical fish tanks, keeping a wine cellar with steady environmental conditions and filtering and heating a swimming pool. Frequent travel-

ers may also find peace of mind knowing their home is protected from freezing pipes, flooded basements and defrosted freezers.

To calculate what size standby generator will meet your home's power needs, use the Sizing Calculator at www.KohlerSmartPower.com, where you can choose which home appliances you would like to keep powered in the event of an outage and learn more about standby power.

What isn't covered by your homeowners insurance

(NAPSA)-Many U.S. homeowners mistakenly believe that standard homeowners insurance protects them from a wide array of perils, according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). In fact, typical property and liability policies do not cover home damage from floods, earthquakes, water line breaks, termites, mold and several other disasters.

A high percentage of homeowners incorrectly think flood damages would be covered by a standard property and liability policy, despite extensive media coverage on Hurricane Katrina victims, whose claims were denied because they lacked flood insurance.

According to the NAIC, flood insurance policies are available from the federal government's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and are often sold by agents who sell homeowners policies.

Another common misconception relates to insurance payments based on actual cash value versus replacement cost.

Actual cash value is the amount it would take to repair or replace damage to a home and its contents after depreciation. Replacement cost is the amount it would take to replace or rebuild a home or repair damages with materials of similar kind and quality, without deducting for depreciation.

To help homeowners better understand insurance issues, the NAIC provides extensive information on its consumer education Web site, Insure U (www.InsureUonline.org). The site is also available in Spanish (www.InsureUonline.org/es-panol).

Insurance Tips For Homeowners

Consider the following when reviewing your homeowners insurance policy:

- Add insurance coverage as you enhance the value of your home and acquire expensive possessions, such as furniture, computers, stereos and televisions.

- Alert your insurance company when making any major

home improvements-usually anything more than \$5,000. Also, update your homeowners insurance policy to reflect the new enhancements and prevent being underinsured.

- Backyard items, such as a trampoline or pool, may require you to increase your liability coverage through an umbrella policy that protects you in the event that someone is injured while on your property.

- As you acquire more valuables-jewelry, family heirlooms, antiques, art-consider purchasing an additional "floater" or "rider" to your policy to cover these special items. They're typically not covered by a basic homeowners or renters policy.

- It is a good idea to make an inventory of all of your personal property, along with a photograph or video of each room. Also, save your receipts for major items and keep them in a safe place away from your house or apartment. That will make it easier if you need to file a claim.

For more information about insurance, you can visit www.InsureUonline.org.

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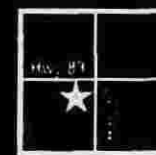
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Style and performance in today's kitchens

(NAPSA)-For many years, the range hood has been a design afterthought. While it's a much-appreciated-even essential-appliance, it wasn't previously known for its stylish appeal.

Fortunately, that has changed. Designers and homeowners looking for stylish ways to incorporate design elements can use range hoods with sleek angles and glass accents to create stunning focal points.

Stylishly appealing, the Broan Elite E55000 chimney hood efficiently eliminates smoke, grease and odors and also features clean sleek lines and a popular brushed stainless steel finish.

The E55000 chimney hood, winner of a 2007 Platinum Award for Design Excellence (ADEX), features a slide-out glass canopy designed to increase the capture area of the low-profile design. Sleek in design, the E55000 sports a multi-speed push-button control on the front of the hood. Available in a 35 7/16-inch width, it has dual 20-watt halogen lights and dishwasher-safe aluminum filters.

Heat Sentry, which detects excessive heat and increases the blower speed automatically, comes standard. While ducting odors, grease, heat and humidity to the outdoors is recommended, a nonducted kit for recirculation may be purchased separately. The hood features a telescopic flue, which accommodates 8- to 9-foot ceilings. If needed, an extension flue is available.

Quiet operation is also required in today's kitchen appliances. The E55000 is certified by the Home Ventilating Institute (HVI) to meet or exceed the standard performance levels stated.

For more information, visit www.broan.com.

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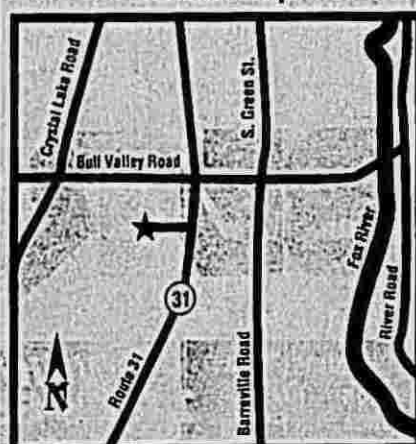
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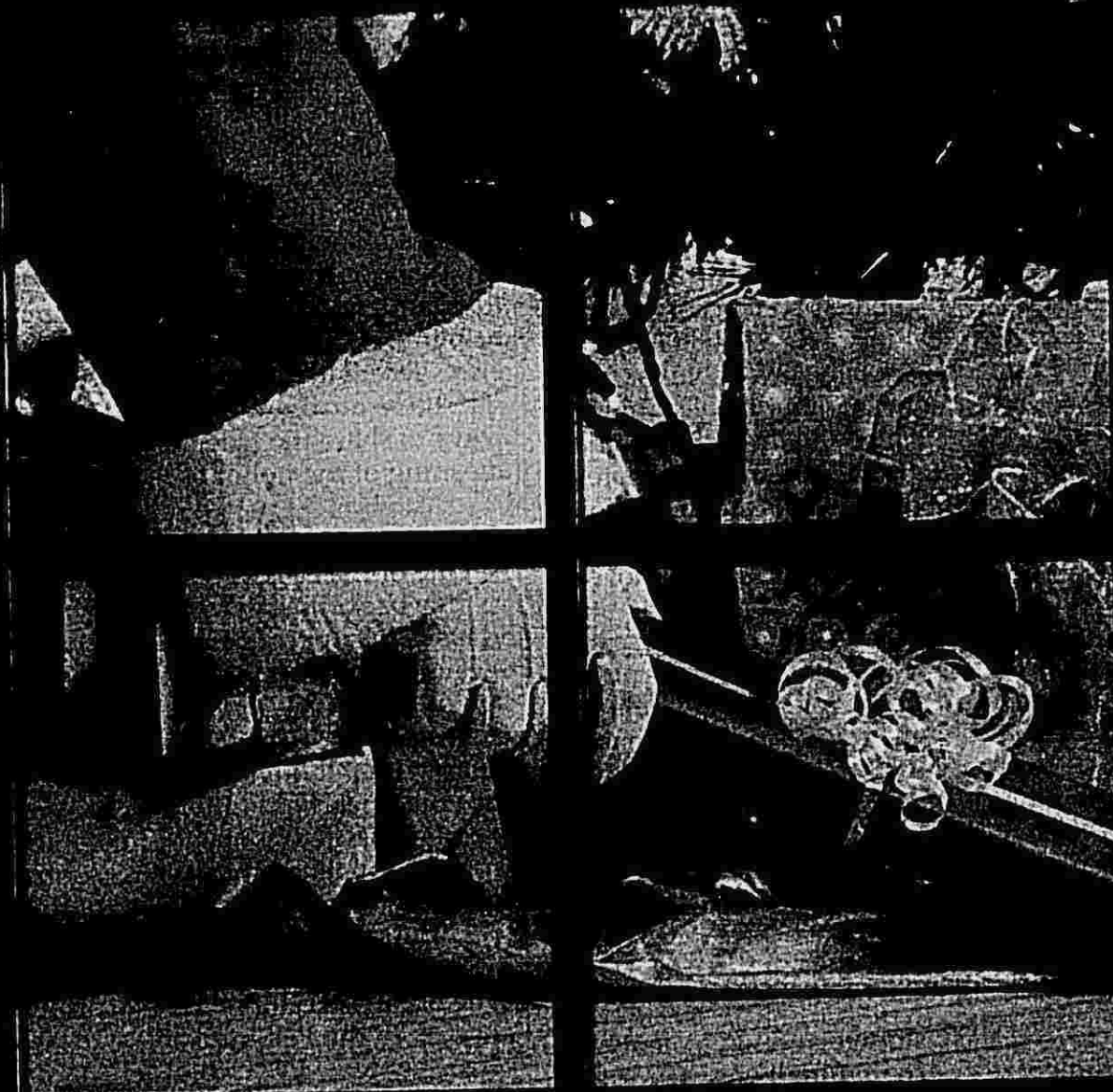
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Guide to office gift giving

Fewer things are harder come the holiday season than shopping for the perfect gift. Whether you're shopping for your spouse, child, or distant cousin, chances are you want to get a thoughtful gift that expresses your love and appreciation.

While shopping for relatives is challenging, things may seem a bit tougher when shopping for coworkers or colleagues. If you happen to be friends with a coworker or colleague, finding a gift may be easier. But if you want to do something thoughtful for those you simply work with, the following guidelines should help you keep things pleasant and professional.

- Consider religion: There's a good chance your office includes people from diverse backgrounds. Certain gifts are taboo in some cultures, but perfectly acceptable as gifts in others. If there's any doubt as to a coworker's religion or other preferences, steer clear of gifts that might raise an eye-

brow or possibly be seen as offensive. In addition, if you're unsure whether a client or colleague drinks alcohol, avoid giving a bottle of wine or champagne as a gift.

- Give a gift that's office ready: If you're really stuck, give a gift that can help brighten a coworker's office or cubicle. For example, give a plant, a small radio, or something to make them more comfortable, such as a seat cushion or padded mouse pad. Avoid wall hangings, as there's no accounting for another person's taste, and you don't want to put a coworker in the position of having to hang something on their wall that they don't like simply because they feel obligated.

- Go the gift certificate route: To some, gift certificates might seem to indicate little effort on your part. To others, they're the perfect gift and one they're sure to use. Don't worry about which group a coworker falls into. If you really can't

find a gift, a gift certificate is perfectly acceptable. If you're unaware of a coworker or colleague's interests, give a mall gift card that's accepted by many of the stores in the mall. Chances are, they'll find at least one store that matches an interest.

- Don't give items emblazoned with the company name: Nothing will make you look cheaper or more indifferent than giving a company sweatshirt or memo pad to a colleague for the holidays. Such items are probably available for free throughout the year anyway, so giving them during the holidays is inappropriate. These items are meant for marketing campaigns, not as holiday gifts for employees, colleagues, or clients.

- Let common sense be your guide: If you're unsure about a certain gift, follow the rule of common sense. A general rule of thumb is to not give anything too personal to coworkers or colleagues. *

Make a difference with holiday giving

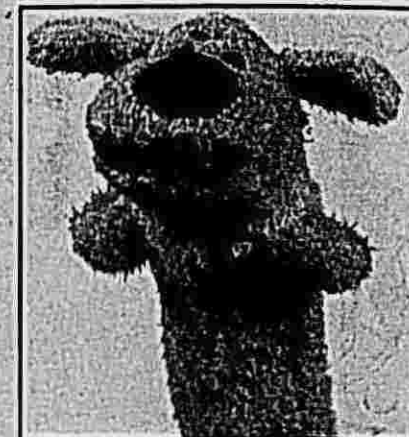
The holidays are certainly about togetherness and sharing special gifts with the people you love. But they can also be a time to make a difference that truly benefits those in need.

During this time of year many people wonder what they can do to assist those who are less fortunate or just need a helping hand. From supporting charities to volunteer work to just bringing a smile to someone else's face with a touching gift, there are a number of ways to share the true meaning of the holidays.

Give Back by Giving

One of the easiest ways to give back during the holidays is to support companies that donate a percentage of sales to worthy causes. In essence, you walk away with a thoughtful gift for your friend or family member, and others benefit from your generosity as well.

Multipet International, a pet toy company whose ever-popular Loofa dog appears in the PetSmart TV



commercial, has a pink Loofa dog with the recognized pink ribbon embroidered on its chest that would make a heart-felt gift for an animal lover or anyone touched by breast cancer. According to Leslie Yellin, Multipet Director of Strategic Sales, "A new dog command has entered the marketplace... 'sit,' 'stay,' and 'fight' breast cancer." The Breast Cancer Research Foundation has been selected as Multipet's charity-of-choice to receive ongoing contributions from the sale of the pink Loofa Dog.

The pink ribbon Loofa Dog and other adorable pet products are sold in over 20,000 stores nationwide. *

The perfect gift for tech lovers

For the person on your shopping list that loves technology, there's no better gift to give than the latest high tech gadget. Smartphones like the BlackBerry Pearl make perfect gifts, and now they're smaller and more powerful than ever before.

The BlackBerry Pearl is the must-have smartphone of the year — it's the smallest and lightest BlackBerry, and combines a top of the line mobile phone, Web browsing and impressive multimedia capabilities along with the industry's leading mobile e-mail and messaging capabilities. Weighing only 3.1 ounces and less than two inches wide, the BlackBerry Pearl is powerful on communications and entertainment, all packaged in a compact, ultra-sleek design and available in a multitude of excit-

ing colors.

Although the same size as a standard mobile phone, the BlackBerry Pearl has a QWERTY keyboard that makes typing messages and emails fast and easy.

But the BlackBerry Pearl offers more than just messaging, it's also a multimedia powerhouse. With a camera, 5x zoom and built-in flash, snapping high quality photos is a breeze. And with a couple of clicks, you can send photos to straight to friends and family.

This smartphone also features an advanced media player for listening to music, watching videos and viewing pictures. Songs can be sorted by artist, title or genre, and videos can be played in full screen mode. The BlackBerry Pearl even has a microSD memory card slot, so you can expand the

storage and have plenty of room for all your favorite music, pictures and videos.

To keep your media files organized and synchronized between the smartphone and your PC, the BlackBerry Pearl comes with media management software for your PC. You can use the software to create play lists, convert songs and videos for optimal playback, and even edit photos.

In addition to world-class mobile messaging, Web browsing and multimedia capabilities, the BlackBerry Pearl is an excellent mobile phone — audio enhancements include noise cancellation technology that offsets background noise, voice activated dialing, and a built-in speakerphone.

For more information on BlackBerry smartphones visit: www.blackberry.com. *

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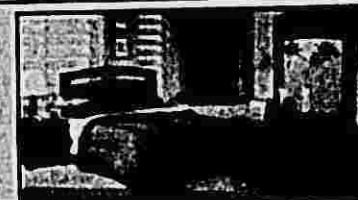
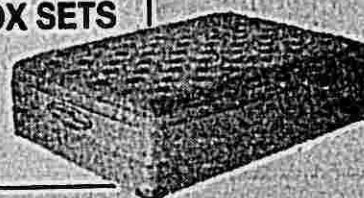
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Toy recalls aren't child's play

The toy industry has been reeling this year due to a number of product recalls by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), which pulled everything from dolls to wooden trains off of store shelves.

Roughly 10 million units of toys have been recalled in the United States alone over the past year. Toys decorated with lead-laden paints and products containing tiny magnets that can cause intestinal blockage or perforation were just some of the recall targets. The majority of these recalled toys were manufactured in China.

Seeking Out Safe Toys

Now that the holiday season has arrived and toys are likely at the top of many children's wish lists, how can you safeguard those you love from dan-

gerous toys?

- Beware of used toys. Sure, they may seem like a bargain, but those garage sale finds or toys you purchased from online auction sites may be dangerous. In fact, reports have indicated that many recalled toys find a second life on popular auction sites such as Ebay. These Web sites provide an easy way to liquidate dangerous merchandise. Before you shop, be sure you have the facts about the toys.

- Know where to find answers. The CPSC is responsible in the United States for keeping track of the safety of products and will often list current recalls on their Web site:

www.cpsc.gov. Other sources of recall information include local newspapers/Web sites, "Consumer Reports," which includes recalls in the beginning of each issue, and toy and

manufacturer Web sites. You can also phone toy/product manufacturers to check on recalls.

- Follow the age guidelines. Most toys are sold with age requirements posted right on the packaging. Therefore, heed the age guidelines and do not allow children to play with items that may be out of their league. Age restrictions may not be restricted to physical hazards from toys. Age suggestions are also based on subjective matters such as intended use (toy weapons) and connotation (sexual innuendo, story content).

- Use common sense. If a toy seems dangerous or contains parts that make you nervous, you may want to pass it up for something else. Keep an eye out for small parts, magnets, sharp edges, etc. You may find you're ahead of the game with a product recall.

Dangerous Toys of the Past

All of the 2007 recalls may have parents wondering if toys are getting more dangerous or if government officials are cracking down on potential hazards. Through the years there have been a number of dangerous toys (now unavailable) that have resulted in injuries that may make today's toys seem innocent. Again, if you find any of these toys lurking in an attic or online, it's best to keep them away from kids. Here's a look:

Gilbert U-238 Atomic Energy Lab (1951); dangers: radioactive elements

Johnny Reb Cannon (1961); dangers: spring-loaded cannon balls launched 35 feet into anything in their path

Creepy Crawler Thingmaker (1964); dangers: burns — open hot

plate that heated toxic rubber to 300 F to form critters

Battlestar Galactica Missile Launcher (1979); dangers: missile-shaped projectiles choked and put out eyes

Lawn Darts (1980s); dangers: sharp points that impaled

EZ Sales mini-hammock (1984-1995); dangers: strangulation

Cabbage Patch Snacktime Kid (1996); dangers: motorized mouth "bit" fingers and entangled child's hair

Sky Dancers (1994); dangers: launched doll could cause various injuries, from blindness to facial lacerations

Fisher-Price Power Wheels Motorcycle (2000); dangers: motorcycle throttle locked, keeping the motorcycle in accelerated speeds forcing kids to face crashes or falls.

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Fabulous holiday gift ideas to please foodies

Key trends, such as today's soaring demand for premium quality foods and beverages, and the increasing popularity of television cooking shows, have inspired a plethora of new products specially designed to please gourmet and cooking enthusiasts. To help navigate crowded store aisles, here is a short list of new and innovative gifts to consider:

Gifts for Connoisseurs of Chocolate, Coffee and Tea:

'Tis the season for chocolate! There's nothing like a piping hot cup of hot chocolate to chase away the winter chill, and BonJour's new Hot Chocolate Maker in pink also generously benefits Susan G. Komen for the Cure (\$40 retail). Complete with two matching pink cocoa mugs, the pink Hot Chocolate Maker presents a delicious opportunity to give to a worthy cause. (With each sale, \$3 will be donated to Komen for the Cure with a minimum guaranteed donation of \$30,000.)

Chocolate aficionados who like to entertain will be thrilled with the new and elegantly styled Chocolate Dipping Set from BonJour. Crafted of classic white ceramic to blend with any holiday table decor, a 20-ounce, microwave safe pot sits neatly on a stand over a tea light to keep chocolate warm and smooth for dipping. The set includes bowls to hold dip-ready foods and six stainless steel dipping forks (\$30 retail).

Coffee connoisseurs prefer brewing their beverage in a French Press coffee maker, which allows for maximum coffee bean extraction and full-bodied, rich tasting coffee. Impress the coffee lover on your list with BonJour's high-quality 8-cup Maximus French Press (\$40 retail), which now comes in chic translucent metallic finishes, including a vibrant Candy Apple Red. For latte, cap-

puccino and mocha gourmet coffee fans, BonJour offers its new automatic Caffé Latte Frother (\$20 retail). The powerful, battery-powered, hand-held frother whips milk in seconds to transform a regular cup of Joe into a café-style treat.

Tea lovers have no reason to feel left out in the cold. Today's interest in health and relaxation has focused a spotlight on the benefits of tea. Delight an avid tea drinker with one of BonJour's new hand-blown glass teapots featuring a removable infusion basket to brew loose tealeaves. The new Celeste Teapot Set (\$60 retail) makes the complete gift as it includes a 32-ounce round teapot, creamer and sugar bowl with extra-long handled sugar spoon.

Culinary Gifts that Keep on Giving

Practical and thoughtful, cookware is a perennial favorite gift among culinary enthusiasts. Double the value of giving this season with the purchase of KitchenAid Cookware's new Cook for the Cure Twin Pack Set, which includes a new 10-inch Round Griddle and 11-inch Round Grill Pan crafted in the cause's iconic pink hue (\$50 retail). With each purchase, \$5.00 will be donated to benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Following in the Foot Steps of Celebrity Cooks

Popular television cooking shows are drawing millions of Americans back into the kitchen, and one of the most influential stars leading this trend is Rachael Ray of Food Network fame. Inspire a novice cook, or please a diehard Rachael fan with a gift from the celebrity cook's eponymous line of cookware and kitchen tools. New this fall is the Rachael Ray Enamel Cast-Iron 7-Quart Dutch Oven (\$100 retail) - a generously sized round pot crafted in Rachael Ray's three favorite colors -

orange, blue and new for fall, green. If you're looking for a fun stocking stuffer with a culinary theme, new Rachael Ray Tools come in affordable sets, such as the 2-Piece Pastry Brush Set, and 3-Piece Spoonula Set (cross between spoon and spatula, \$15 each retail).

Essential Tools for the Budding Home Chef

Just as an artist needs the right equipment to be inspired to create, an aspiring cook requires a solid foundation of high-quality cookware and cutlery to master the art of cooking. Tap the inner chef of someone special on the gift list with a complete set of gourmet quality hard-anodized nonstick cookware. Anolon offers a well-designed 10-piece Anolon Advanced Cookware Set (\$300 retail) with all the basic pots and pans needed to get cooking. Constructed to ensure fast and even heat distribution for best cooking results, the

cookware features comfortable SureGrip handles on both the cookware and lids.

An innovative gift for the budding home chef is the Infinite Circulon 6-Quart Covered Chef Pan (\$70 retail). Recently introduced, Infinite Circulon is the first-ever hard-anodized non-stick cookware that is both dishwasher-safe and can be used on all types of ranges, including induction and glass cooktops.

Good kitchen knives are another "must have" for home chefs. New this season is a collection of super-sharp knives with gleaming stainless steel handles from Anolon. The Anolon Stainless Steel Cutlery 3-Piece Chef Set (\$50 retail) features a trio of indispensable knives no cook should be without: 8-inch Chef's, 6-inch Utility and 3.5-inch Parer. Well balanced and comfortable to hold, the blades are made from a perfected composition of German high carbon stainless steel that is

highly durable, retains its edge longer, and resists staining and rusting.

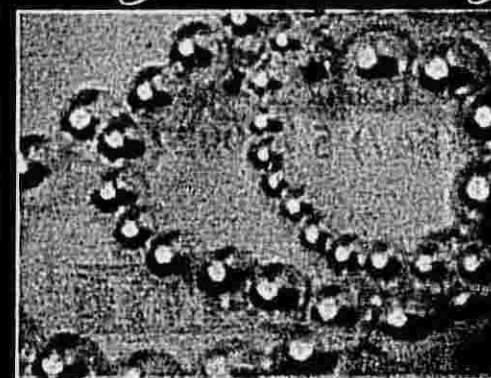
Sweet Gifts for the Baker and Holiday Hostess

For the person who loves to bake, there's always room in the cupboard for another well-designed cookie sheet, cake pan, muffin tin, or loaf pan. Make it an extra-special gift by presenting the bakeware with a treat baked inside. For instance, arrive at a holiday party with the perfect hostess gift - a delicious cranberry walnut loaf cake beautifully baked in a new Circulon Bakeware 9- x 5-inch Loaf Pan (\$13 retail).

Holiday gifts for the food-minded are plentiful and tempting this season. Learn more about the items mentioned online: www.bonjourproducts.com, www.anolon.com, www.kitchenaidcookware.com, www.circulon.com, and www.rachaelray.com. *



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- VW's new Scirocco not coming to U.S. shores
- Chinese cars en route
- Hybrid Fortwo for you

AUTOBRIEF page 3



WISCONSIN page 3



Dodge Viper SRT10: Raw horsepower

Camillo Alfaro
AutoMotive Editor
calfaro@pioneerlocal.com

Dodge pulls a fast one with the new 2008 Viper SRT10. This is a no-nonsense, pavement-shredding sports car designed for those few individuals who like their horsepower raw.

Other than a new hood with six air vents versus four, new wheels and color options, there are no cosmetic differences between the 2007 and the 2008 Viper.

What you can't see but can hear from a mile away is the new 8.4-liter V-10 engine that produces an astounding 600 horsepower and 560 pound-feet of torque. That's 90 horsepower more than its predecessor. The Viper accelerates from 0-60 mph in less than 4 seconds, leaving your brain stuck to the headrest. It is by far the fastest car I have ever tested, with a top speed of 200 mph, if you can find a

place to test it without ending up behind bars. The engine is mated to an even hungrier for speed six-speed manual transmission that seems to beg for diehard acceleration and shifting every chance it gets. With 600 thirsty horses you can only imagine that fuel consumption is high. EPA rating for the Viper is 13 mpg in the city and 22 mpg on the highway.

The cockpit is pure racing with the

cruise control or vanity mirrors, the Viper is not the car for you. This pure, no compromise sports car, is equipped with only the necessary controls and functions, like climate control and a fantastic sound system.

Driving the Viper is not an easy task. It requires your complete concentration managing the 600 horses in the absence of traction control and to top it off, a stiff racing suspension. The Viper is not a daily driver and small commutes to the grocery store can be difficult, especially since it is tough to get in and out of the car. The ride is incredible, the engine roars like a lion and the side exhaust pipes play my favorite tune.

Revvng up first gear is amazing with the tires spinning as you fight the steer-

(See Dodge Viper page 8)

The Viper accelerates from 0-60 mph in less than 4 seconds, leaving your brain stuck to the headrest.

tachometer sitting in the middle of the dash like a bulls-eye. Directly to the right are a row of gauges that give you all the necessary engine information such as engine temperature, oil-pressure and so on. The sports seats hug you like an aunt you haven't seen in 20 years. If you're looking for traction control,

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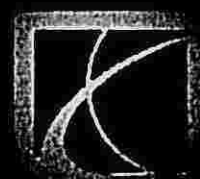
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autoBRIEFS



Dodge invites two lucky lovebirds to start their journey of a lifetime at the 100th Chicago Auto Show

With this Journey, one loving couple will wed. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Chicago Auto Show and the launch of the all-new 2009 Dodge Journey, Dodge is proposing that couples register for a chance to tie the knot on the auto show floor and start their "Journey" of a lifetime as husband and wife. As part of the "Dodge Journey of a Lifetime" contest, Dodge will select one car-loving couple to win an all-expense paid wedding ceremony to take place on Valentine's Day and an all-new 2009

Dodge Journey.

Couples can register online at www.DodgeJourneyOfALifetime.com for a chance to be married at the Chicago Auto Show. To enter, potential contestants will be asked to answer the question, "Why should Dodge select you to start your 'Journey' of a lifetime together at the Chicago Auto Show on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2008?" and submit a photo of themselves as a couple. The finalist couples will be announced during the week of Jan. 21.

Do you know your cars?



Last week we ran a picture of a 1968 Lamborghini Miura Roadster and

asked you if you knew your car stuff and sure enough you did!

Named after the strongest of fighting bulls, the Miura was capable of reaching a top speed of 176 mph. This one of a kind example was built by Marcello Gandini and Bertone for the 1968 Geneva Auto Show. The V12 produced 350 bhp and accelerated from 0-60 mph in 6.6 seconds!

Congratulations to Chris & Nicole Hineline, Wayne Tofel, Lisa & James Zehner and

Pete Eckert for getting this weeks answer correct!

This week the mystery car is below. Lets see how well you know your car stuff! Email me at calfaro@pioneerlocal.com with this weeks answer!



■ Can you name which make/model/year of this car?

sectionCREDITS

EDITORIAL

Camilo Alfaro847.486.7282
AutoMotive Editor, Art Direction & Page Layout
calfaro@pioneerlocal.com

Marcy Marro847.486.6841
Special Section Editor

Michelle Weiss847.486.7285
Niche Publishing Manager

ADVERTISING

Mike Sperling312.321.2176
Director of Automotive, Sun-Times News Group
msperling@suntimes.com

Mike Nathan312.321.2975
Automotive Sales Manager
mnathan@suntimes.com

George Milles847.486.7253
Automotive Advertising Representative
gmilles@pioneerlocal.com

Kristin Rector312.321.2389
Automotive Advertising Representative
krector@suntimes.com

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Comments, questions or suggestions regarding editorial in this week's automotive section? E-mail us at automotive@pioneerlocal.com

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Hot off the press

■ **GM stresses over self-imposed Volt timeline but remains committed to it:** General Motors plans to launch its plug-in hybrid gas/electric car, the Chevrolet Volt, by the end of 2010 despite skepticism at GM about that target. As the race to bring a mass-market, rechargeable electric vehicle to the market heats up, GM Vice-Chairman Bob Lutz said



Some GM staff members are nervous about the 2010 deadline for the Chevrolet Volt, but the top brass is pressing on since reputations and the company's future is on the line.

employees working on the Volt are becoming nervous. "There is a lot of skepticism within the company about the timeline," Lutz said at the Reuters Autos Summit in Detroit. "People are biting their nails, but those of us in a leadership position have said it has to be done." Lutz said the Volt plug-in hybrid — which GM plans to road-test early next year and produce by late 2010 — is crucial to GM's efforts to snag the environmental technology crown from Japanese rival Toyota Motor Corp. The Volt is designed to run for about 40 miles on nothing but electricity. Owners can either plug it in at night to recharge or rely on a small gas motor to do the work while driving the Volt. GM is the only automaker to have provided a timeline on production even though other companies such as Ford Motor Co and Toyota are working on similar technology.

■ **VW's hot-ride Scirocco bypasses North America so as not to hurt Rabbit sales:** Spy photographers have spotted a number of Volkswagen Scirocco prototypes, some even in the south-west United States on testing missions. But the Pioneer Press hears that the



Since VW is German based, it makes sense that that market comes first. In fact, we won't even get the new Scirocco, for whatever reason. But, for how long will the North American market be content playing second fiddle to Europe before buyers become frustrated with the brand?

Scirocco will not be sold in North America. It's slated to go on sale in Europe in mid 2008, but Stefan Jacoby, president and chief executive officer of Volkswagen of America, broke the news in an interview with Car and Driver magazine recently. Jacoby apparently said that the automaker didn't want to cannibalize North American sales of the Rabbit. "The [2009 Scirocco] is lovely, but we can't have everything," he said. VW of America executives have long stated their opposition to bringing the Scirocco to America. The final decision will come out of Germany, but the Pioneer Press hears the news is not going to be good.

■ **Emission bugs at the heart of VW's Jetta TDI delay:** The Pioneer Press reported to you some months ago that a turbo-diesel version of the 2009 Jetta was going to be delayed in getting to North America and now that has been confirmed by VW's Stefan Jacoby. Look for it late next summer. The delay is due to — no surprise — problems with the emissions system, which is the whole reason why there has been no TDI here for a while now. "We have a solution and are working on it," Jacoby said. Despite the delay, VW is already conducting dealer

training for the new vehicle. "We need to launch with proper emissions and quality," Jacoby said.

■ **Chinese cars en route ... via Mexico?:** We all knew it would eventually happen ... just not this way. The Pioneer Press hears that a Mexican business conglomerate plans to import cars from China next year and then send them to Central America and maybe North America by 2010. The long-term plan is to build cars in Mexico with a Chinese partner by 2010. Salinas Group, a Mexican financial services, communications and retailing giant, says it will begin producing Chinese-designed automobiles at an assembly plant to be built in western Mexico in collaboration with China's First Automobile Works Group, or FAW. Salinas unit Grupo Elektra will own a majority stake in the plant, which is expected to cost about \$150 million, take three years to build and have an initial production capacity of 100,000 vehicles a year, Salinas spokesman Daniel McCosh told industry publication Automotive News.

■ **"Hybrid" Fortwo for you:** Smart USA, the distributor of Daimler's Smart Fortwo microcar in the United States expects to have a gas/electric hybrid variant available in two years with a rechargeable electric version to follow for all of North America, the Pioneer Press hears. "A micro-hybrid is a derivative that you could see here in the next two years," David Schembri, president of Smart USA said at a recent press event. A micro-hybrid Fortwo would boost fuel efficiency since the gas engine would be shut down when the vehicle is stopped. Smart has taken in more than 30,000 Internet reservations for its Fortwo at \$99 each. The first cars are due to be shipped early next year.

Market indicators

Open season on pricing for hot cars: It's a given that popular new models will often fetch more than the sticker price when they eventually go on sale. It's a case of supply and demand and a situation that many manufacturers actually don't like. With the long-awaited Nissan GT-R finally making it to our shores next June, it's a sure bet that initial demand will far outweigh supply. So what will Nissan do to prevent the vehicles from being sold at more than sticker price? Nothing yet, actually.

Nissan was considering voiding the warranty of any GT-R resold in its first 12 months (which would discourage speculators from buying the vehicles and reselling them to the highest bidder) but has since abandoned that idea. Markups are expected to be at least \$15,000 over sticker. Only 1,500 GT-Rs have been allotted for North America during the first year. Hey, if Nissan doesn't want price gouging, the Pioneer Press thinks the company should make more GT-Rs available.

Start/stop technology: Why use gas when you're stopped? It seems Chrysler will offer start/stop engine technology (which Chrysler will call a "micro hybrid" system since it's derived from technology used in gas/electric hybrid vehicles). The system will automatically turn off a car's gas engine when stopped (at a red light for example) and then start up again when the brake pedal is released. This is technology that General Motors was using a few years ago in its full-size trucks. Expect to see widespread use within the next two years and expect a boost in fuel economy by as much as five percent.



In the case of the new Nissan GT-R, the sticker price will be a guideline.



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935- Autos for Sale
Private Party

1997 Honda Passport LX, blk., 4D, 4WD, V6, 3.2 L, 132K mi., RT rack, grill guard, run brds., Auto-start, Good Cond., \$4,000 O.B.O., Even! 847-381-1121 Days! 312-446-2377

1999 Buick LeSabre Custom Silver/100K mi./Full Power 4 DR \$3400 847-722-4129

2001 Ford Windstar LX Minivan, 99K miles, A/C, 6 cyl, white, \$3500 OBO, Day (773) 267-0113. Evenings & weekends (773) 266-4331

2002 Ford Escape, Silver, V6, 4WD, 83K mi. ex. cond., \$8,500. (847) 367-6756

2003 Cadillac Sedan DeVille 3-way blk North Star eng. 1 owner, 52K mi. Exc. cond. Very pretty car 847-735-0073 or 847-287-5441

2005 Mercedes Benz E-500 4Matic Sedan, Silver, 23K MI, Loaded w/ Navig., 847-549-7713

ACURA TL 2000, 80,000 Miles, \$ 10,650.00, Dk. GREEN Ext., Leather Light Tan Int., 1 Non-Smoker Owner, Garage Kept, 1.5 Yr. Goodyear Eagle, ABS, A/C, Full Set MUD Flaps, Alarm, Alloy Wheels, Pin Strip, Xenon Lights, BOSE Music Radio/Cassette/CD, Cruise, Driver/Side Airbags, SunRoof, Heated Mirrors, Seats, Hand Wash/Wheel, Kept Maintain Schedule, (847) 831-5190 PublicEmailUSA@Comcast.com

BUICK '85 LeSabre Ltd, 44K mi, fully loaded & spotless, \$3500. (847) 352-0224

Dalson 280 ZX '81 For Sale. Call to see 847-945-4453

VW 1999 Cabrio, Blk cnvrtble, Pwr, lthr heat seats, A/C, 52K mi, \$7,500, 847-516-9302

936- Autos for Sale
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All Driveable Autos & Trucks Wanted, \$500 to \$5000, 708-516-8888.

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114 pcs King Richard
Sterling Flatware
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Las Vegas
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Steinway Grand
Piano
English Jumping
Saddle
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Lucky Bingo Necklace
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Bell
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936- Autos for Sale
DealershipGREAT DEALS
ON WHEELS

2004 Chrysler Sebring LXI Convertible
Low miles, leather & more \$14,995

2002 Jeep Wrangler 4x4 6 cyl, auto & low, low miles
\$13,995

2005 Chrysler 300 Leather moonroof, loaded!
\$14,595

2007 Chrysler Sebring Sedan
Full power & much more!
\$15,595

2000 Chevrolet Silverado 4x4 pickup, 5spd.... \$7,595

2004 Ford Freestar Minivan
.....\$8,595

1997 Mercury Mountain-er 4x4 Full power, leather, loaded
.....\$5,595

2004 Dodge Caravan V-4 7 passenger
.....\$13,995

1997 Buick Regal 4 dr
.....\$4,995

2005 Chrysler Town & Country Minivan, tow & go, leather & more!
.....\$14,995

2004 Chrysler Sebring 4 dr Full power V-4
.....\$13,195

2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4 moonroof, 23K miles
.....\$16,595

2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee LTD V-8 Loaded!!!!
.....\$16,995

1996 Toyota Camry 4dr PW, PL, Auto, A/C
.....\$5,795

2005 Jeep Liberty Sport Auto, A/C full power
.....\$15,995

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936- Autos for Sale
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2002-06 Civics
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19 To Choose
2004-07 CR-Vs
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DODGE '2004 Dakota Club Cab silver, 28K mi, warrant-ty, \$12,500. Call (847) 352-4224

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Pioneer's
Standard
Automotive
Abbreviations

Please use this list as a guide for easier reading and better writing of your Pioneer Press Classified ads. We require all auto ads to start with MAKE (in caps), then Year, then Model. Payment is required prior to publication for your auto ad.

MAKES
Cadillac.....CAD.
Chevrolet.....CHEVY
Chrysler.....CHRYSL.
Lincoln.....LINC.
Mercury.....MERC.
Mitsubishi.....MITSU
Oldsmobile.....OLDS
Plymouth.....PLYM.
Pontiac.....PONT.
Volkswagen.....VW

FEATURES
A
Air Conditioning.....AC or Air
Anti-lock Brakes.....ABS
Automatic Transmission.....
.....Auto or AT
Average.....Avg.
B
Battery.....Batt.
Between.....Btwn.
Black.....Blk.
Brakes.....Brks.
Brown.....Brwn.
C
Carburetor.....Carb.
Cassette.....Cass.
Certified miles.....Cert. mi.
Condition.....Cond.
Convertible.....Conv.
Cruise Control.....Cruise
Cylinder.....Cyl.
D
Dealer.....Dir.
Door(s).....DR
E
Engine.....Eng.
Equipment/Equipped.....Equip.
Excellent.....Exc.
F
Financing.....Fin.
Four Wheel Drive.....4WD
G
Garage.....Gar.
H
Hatchback.....Hitchbk. or HB
Horsepower.....HP
Hardtop.....Hrtp.
I
Immaculate.....Immac.
Interior.....Int.
K
Thousand.....K
L
Leather.....Lthr.
M
Miles.....MI
Moonroof.....Mnrf.
Maintenance.....Maint.
Manufacturer.....Mfr. or Mfg.
Miles per gallon.....MPG
O
Or best offer.....OBO
Offer.....Of.
Option(s).....Opt(s).
P
Power Brakes.....PB
Power Doors.....PD
Power Locks.....PL
Power Steering.....PS
Power Windows.....PW
R
Radial.....Rad.
Records.....Rec.
Rear Window Defog.....RWD
S
Sacrifice.....Sac.
Speed.....Spd.
Sunroof.....Snrf.
T
Tires.....Trs.
Trailer Hitch.....Trl. Hitch.
Transmission.....Trans.
V
Very good condition.....VGC
W
Warranty.....Warr.
Wheel(s).....Whl(s).
White.....Whi.
Whitewalls.....W/W
with.....W/

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Dealer replaces parts but
Check Engine light is still on

Ira Siegel

Contributor

Q : I own a 1997 Nissan Sentra GXE and the "Check Engine" light comes on. The dealer has worked on it several times and even though they have changed the canister and canister valve the problem is still there. They can't seem to solve my problem and I need your help. Please reply.

M.S., Des Plaines

A : M.S., a little background information will help you better understand the possible problem. The canister is a central part of the vehicle's evaporative emission control system. This system is designed to prevent fuel vapors (from inside the fuel tank) from venting to the atmosphere. To accomplish this, the canister is partially filled with charcoal, which absorbs the fuel vapors. During certain conditions, these fuel vapors in the canister are drawn out of the canister and burned in the engine during vehicle operation. When the vapors are being collected by the canister from the fuel tank, this is known as "venting". When the engine is drawing these vapors out of the canister it's known as "purging". There are a number of valves and hoses in the evaporative emission control system that are needed to control venting and purging. Also, this system has to be monitored by the vehicle's Powertrain Control Module (PCM) to make sure it's working correctly. The "check engine" light will come on if there are any problems with this system. Problems range from leaks to possible flow issues due to restrictions in the hoses. Now, here's what may have happened. According to a service bulletin, some of the charcoal in the canister may have leaked out and contaminated the system. You mentioned that the dealer changed the canister and a valve. There may be more valves contaminated by the leaking charcoal. There may also be contamination in the various hoses. According to the bulletin, all the evaporative emis-

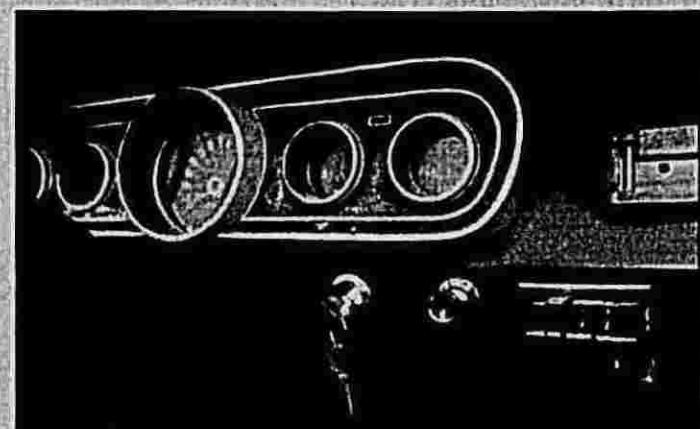
sion system hoses need to be thoroughly cleaned. Any leaking hoses should be replaced. Also, other valves may have become contaminated from the leaking charcoal. If the dealer isn't willing to spend the time to thoroughly clean the hoses and inspect all the valves, take your Sentra to another Nissan dealer or to an independent repair facility that specializes in emission control repairs. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has a list of repair facilities and it includes how successful these shops are at fixing vehicles that failed the emissions test. You can find the "Repair Facility Performance Report" by visiting www.epa.state.il.us/air/vim/ and click on the link at the bottom of the screen.

Q : I was told that Ford products are notorious for having a low idle and then when you're at a stop they have a tendency to die out. I was wondering if that was true. I was also told to put a bottle of fuel injector cleaner in my 1993 Ford Escort's gas tank. Is that advisable? What do you think?

P.B., Steger

A : P.B., I wouldn't say that all Ford products are notorious for low idle problems. Your Escort's low idle and stalling could be caused by a dirty throttle housing. If that's the case, using the injector cleaner won't help. Have a technician check your car's throttle housing to see if a cleaning is in order. By the way, adding the correct amount of fuel injector cleaner to a full fuel tank usually won't hurt anything.

Ira Siegel is an Automotive Instructor and ASE Certified Master Auto Technician. If you have auto-related questions for Ira, you can call and leave your questions at the Auto Adviser Hotline at (708)-633-6839 or e-mail a question to autoadvisr@aol.com.





Motor into the holidays with auto ideas

By Jeff Taylor and Camilo Allaro

The holidays sure can be tough. I mean how do you buy for the guy or gal who seemingly has everything. Most people have at least one special car, race series, driver or even a movie that has a car connection—the trick is to find the connection. So to lend a helping hand I've compiled my annual list of four-wheel related gift ideas. As always the selections that follow are available with "a click a call or stop at the mall". I hope these help you make the connection.

GET IT ON VIDEO

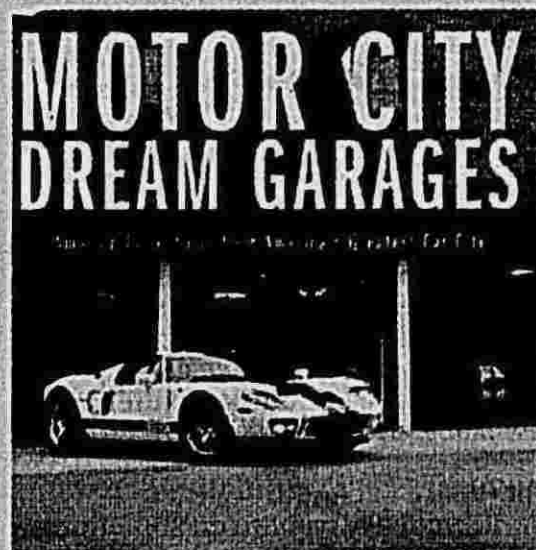
The Motorsports HERO (above) is a waterproof mini wireless digital video camera for motorsports. Its quick-release simplifies click mounting the camera to your car, motorcycle, helmet, etc. Developed at the track, the Motorsports HERO shoots TV resolution 30 fps video with sound tuned to capture the grunt, squeal, and stoke of driving at the limit. Records 56 minutes of video to a 2 GB SD card (not included). 2 AAA batteries. \$179.99 retail. Available at www.goprocamera.com

A CHAMP CAR HOLIDAY



While the open wheel race season is over you can still create some motorsport excitement on a smaller scale via the Champ Car HO Slot Car Set-Long Beach Grand Prix edition by AFX. The set includes a pair of controllers,

enough track to build layouts of Long Beach as well as Cleveland and Surfers Paradise tracks, among others. The cars are 1/64th scale (HO) replicas of Champ Car's biggest rivals—Bourdais and 2003 Champion Paul Tracy. Information on other Champ Car products and merchandise such as shirts, sweaters, caps, mugs, key chains, driver posters and team gear can be obtained at www.champ-carstuff.com and www.speedgear.com or call 1-800-777-4453 and mention code ZCT76 for free ground shipping!



BOOKED UP

Automotive "coffee table" style books are a great gift and Motorbooks www.motorbooks.com, (800) 826-6600 is a great source with car books for every type of car and enthusiast. One book I've recently reviewed is "Motor City Dream Garages". This book focuses on Detroit the world's automotive capital and some of its most interesting dream garages. Peeking inside some fantastic garages and photographing some rare and valuable cars,

author Rex Roy profiles almost two dozen garages and their owners: price \$34.00. Not into garages? Then check the site as virtually every make, vehicle, how to or collector car topic is on the site. Motor books are also found in all the big box book stores.

A SCALED BACK GARAGE

If you can't have a garage filled with new and classic cars here is the next best thing: die-cast cars. Highway 61



Collectibles offers some great 1:18 scale replicas available online or at better hobby stores. Check these out. Chicago White Sox HUMMER® H2 A Hummer H2 with authentic White Sox team graphics highlighting their 2005 World Series Championship. All four passenger doors including and tailgate open to reveal an incredibly detailed interior, that includes reclining front seats, foldable rear seats and spare tire with fabric cover all for \$99.00. The "stop and stare" graphics and high level of detail make this a very cool addition to your memorabilia collection. <http://www.fertl3.com/>

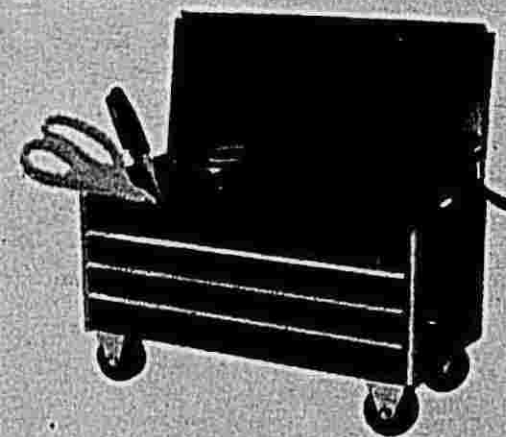
MAGIC FINGER

The TurnPro Magnetic Finger improves upon the best tool you already own – your hands. This indispensable product is a snug, stretchy glove that comes with a powerful mag-



net under the surface of the index fingertip. The glove fits securely and the magnet allows you to hold and retrieve any small metal object with precise control. Now you can pick up nails, screws, bolts and washers, small tools— anything a

magnet will attract. This easy to use, affordable and clever little innovation is available in two sizes. For more information visit www.magneticfinger.com.



DESKTOP TOOLS

The mini desktop toolbox this powder-coated toolbox is constructed of heavy duty 24 gauge steel, bent and spot-welded to create an authentic replica of the toolboxes professionals use. The top flips open revealing a deep storage bin with felt liner on the interior floor, making it ideal for pens, glasses, paper clips and business cards. The top of the lid has a grooved rubber mat just like its big brothers. The mini measures 9" W x 4" D x 5" H. Interior is approximately 3" deep and it comes with The Busted Knuckle Garage name (Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

ing wheel to keep it straight. By the time the red shift light comes on, the Viper has reached 60 mph at 7000 rpm in just 3.6 seconds. Second gear comes raging in like it was your partner in a tag wrestling match, showing no mercy it suddenly takes you into warp speed as you decide to shift into third gear with your heart pounding with adrenaline. Just as you are about to shift into fourth, you notice that you are now hitting 145 mph and the needle is starting to dip faster than a New York second. With the needle not taking a break and the sound of the engine screaming with the chassis showing no signs of instability, the shift light blinks red and you are suddenly at passing 165 mph rapidly while the images in your peripheral vision become a blur. Thinking you have broken the sound barrier, you ease off the throttle and carefully place your foot on the brakes to slow you down. Wow!

The Viper has a starting price of \$83,145 and as tested was \$85,695, including an \$850 destination charge. Thrills, excitement and the ride of your life, are free.

Showing no mercy it suddenly takes you into warp speed as you decide to shift into third gear



(Continued from page 7)

and logo on the front. For more information visit www.bustedknuckle-garage.com or call 888-708-0897.

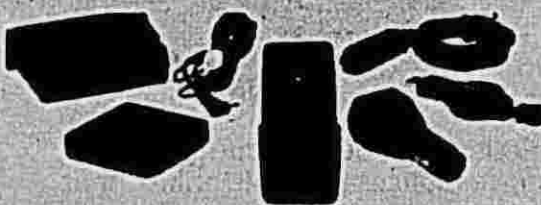


CAR ART

Michael Irvine has chosen to focus his artistic talent on capturing American muscle cars in watercolor. His unique approach to this traditionally 'loose' medium, and ardent eye for detail produces clean, sharp images that are alive with color and narration. Michael's use of reflective surfaces and 'hidden' images along with his incredible attention to technical accuracy, make his paintings very captivating.

His latest showpiece "Opens at Eight" focuses on the soon to be released 2008 Dodge Challenger. This colorful limited edition print features new and old Challengers. The image size is 16.5" x 24" with an overall size of 22" x 28" on 10pt satin finish, acid free, museum quality stock priced at \$115.

Now if your person's classic car tastes favor Mustangs, Camaros or other vintage Chryslers, Michael has those as well. To view his complete line of outstanding auto artwork visit www.michaelirvine.com 800.361.5484



NEW RADAR DETECTOR

The new sophisticated radar/laser detector, Cobra XRS R9G, alerts drivers to photo-enforced locations using a Global Positioning System (GPS) locator that encourages drivers to stay more alert. The R9G's unique design makes the device virtually undetectable—helping to deter theft—while its Super-Xtreme Range Superheterodyne® (S-XRS™) Maximum Performance 12 Band Technology with LaserEye ensures detection of the fastest radar and laser guns, including POP Mode.

FIND YOUR WAY

The NAV ONE 5000 combines the road-tested technology of Cobra's pre-

vious mobile navigation units with a slim design and new advanced features. The highlights include the OptiView ultra-bright, five-inch touch



screen with an on-screen view showing 20 percent more of the road ahead; speed and red light camera alerts from Cobra's proprietary, verified photo enforcement locations database; and My Favorite Brands for access to over 600 on-screen brand icons. The 5000 also offers Cobra's patent-pending Compare Routes feature; spoken street names using text-to-speech technology; Bluetooth hands-free calling; and a rechargeable lithium-ion battery. Available in stores now.

ULTIMATE CLEANING

If you really want to do something special for the Car Care Perfectionist in your life, buy them this kit. Featured in Camilo Alfaro's Pioneer Press editorial *Wax on Wax off*. If he's been pining away for our Random Orbital all year long then this kit will give him everything he needs to make sure he gets everything right off the bat to achieve perfection...all stored in our versatile Car Care Organizer Bag. Enjoy making someone's holiday memorable! Kit includes: Organizer Bag, 6" Random Orbital, 16 oz. Best of Show Wax, 16 oz. Machine Polish 3, 16 oz. Machine



Polish 4, 2 Orange Polish Pads, Red Wax Pad, 3 Micro Fiber Polish Removal Cloths, 3 Micro Fiber Wax Removal Cloths, 8 oz. Speed Shine, Paint Cleaning Clay, 8 oz. Spray-On Wax, 8 oz. Window Cleaner, 4 Micro Fiber Window Cloths, 8 oz. Interior Cleaner and 2 Micro Fiber Interior Cloths.. \$299.00 www.griotsgarage.com or 1800-345-5789.

TALK HANDS FREE

Enjoy effortless and affordable wireless connectivity with the enhanced Motorola Portable Bluetooth Car Kit T305. With a sleek and stylish new design, superior audio capabilities and an intuitive feature set, the palm-sized Motorola T305 is the perfect companion for a busy mobile lifestyle. Optimized for the vehicle, the Motorola T305 lets you obey the law* by providing easy, wireless conversations in the car, keeping your hands on the wheel and eyes on the road. Just clip, connect and go! Store.Motorola.com



All-new 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer GTS makes a big leap



Jeff Taylor
Auto Writer

The last generation Lancer had incredible street cred due to its Evolution VIII offshoot. A star of international road rallies and video games, the Evo got a lot of looks from "The Fast and Furious" crowd, kids and people I smoked at the light. However, the regular Lancer sedan that the Evo was based on didn't raise an eyebrow even in sporty Rally Art trim.

For 2008 Mitsubishi opted to launch the Lancer GTS first and then the super-high performance Evolution which will arrive next spring as an early 2009. I was able to get behind the wheel of a Lancer GTS and noted the big improvements to the compact Lancer.

SIZING ONE UP

The Lancer sedan is classified as a compact sedan but it looks and acts bigger. The 2008 wheelbase is stretched to 103.7 inches from 102.3 inches, and overall width is increased from 66.7 inches to 69.4 inches. Overall length, however, is reduced by 0.6 inches.

The 2008 Lancer line comes in three flavors: DE, ES and the tip top GTS. The DE is the bare bones model, the ES fits in the middle and the GTS is the most aggressive Lancer you can buy. GTS models feature 18-inch alloy wheels, front and side air dams, standard fog lights, a rear spoiler and a chrome tailpipe tip.

For the entire line the bold, dynamic lines of the body give the car a bigger rounded look that approaches midsize class. The Lancer's "shark-nosed" front end inspired by a jet fighter air intake has a distinct wedge-like profile and the crisp, taut lines are a nice break from the previous version's economy look.

Inside, the larger look is supported by the fact that headroom increases an inch as does shoulder room. Hip and legroom also grow incrementally making the Lancer more comfortable for 2008. The driving position is good and there is plenty of room for four passengers.

Mitsubishi has made some nice improvements including seats that are nicely bolstered and rear seats that are comfy for full-size people. The faux carbon fiber accents sport up the fresh interior design. I also liked the night lighting package and the steering wheel had a nice feel.

ENGINE EXCELS

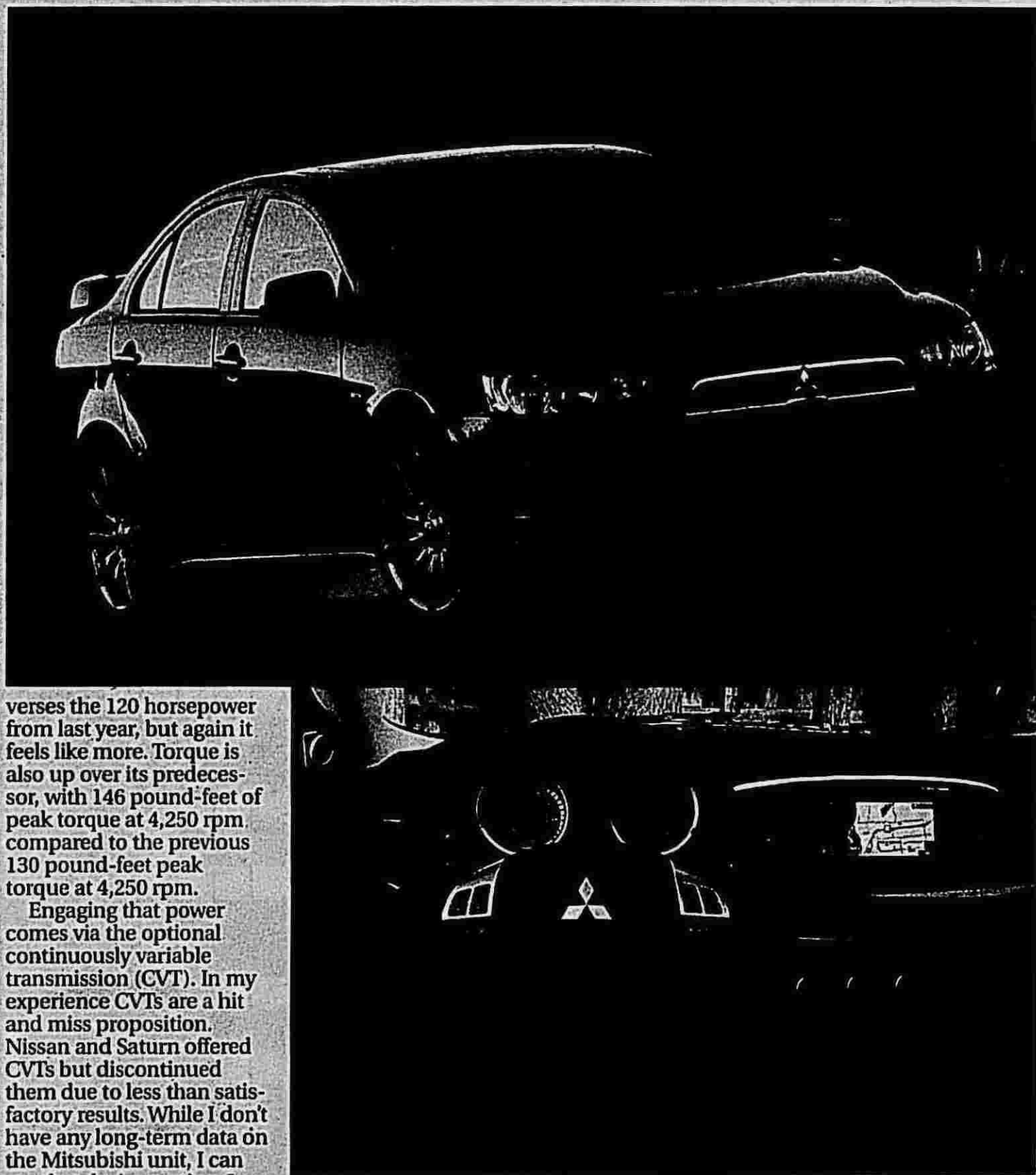
In the engine department Mitsubishi does more with less. The ninth-generation Lancer's 2.0-liter DOHC MIVEC 4-cylinder engine (borrowed from the Dodge Caliber) has some ponies at 152 at 6,000 rpm

verses the 120 horsepower from last year, but again it feels like more. Torque is also up over its predecessor, with 146 pound-feet of peak torque at 4,250 rpm, compared to the previous 130 pound-feet peak torque at 4,250 rpm.

Engaging that power comes via the optional continuously variable transmission (CVT). In my experience CVTs are a hit and miss proposition. Nissan and Saturn offered CVTs but discontinued them due to less than satisfactory results. While I don't have any long-term data on the Mitsubishi unit, I can say that during testing, I found the operation to be smoother than a traditional automatic. The driving force behind CVTs is gains in fuel economy and there is also a small performance gain as well. Lancer scores with new EPA numbers of 22 mpg in the city and 29 mpg on the highway. The CVT actually improves the standard 5-speed manual by 1 MPG in the city, and both transmissions achieve better mileage and performance figures than the less-powerful and lighter previous generation.

CUTTING THROUGH THE CORNERS

Lancer's drive story starts with a new and highly rigid platform (again courtesy of the Caliber), that makes extensive use of high-strength steel. In GTS form the set up comes with a slightly firm sport-oriented suspension. The front suspension employs strut tower bars that enhance lateral rigidity for a natural and precise steering response. Through the new multi-link rear suspension set up Mitsubishi again delivers more than expected with ride and handling characteristics that you would attribute to a more expensive vehicle. With the optional CVT, I coaxed the GTS to an approximate zero-to-60 time of about 9.0 seconds.



My GTS' sport-tuned suspension employed different stabilizer bars and spring/shock damping rates than DE and ES models. Meaty eighteen-inch 215/45 R18 tires on attractive alloy wheels increased my confidence during aggressive twisty-road sessions and the body also stayed over the wheels. Big brakes also add to the GTS drive experience with 11.6-inch-vented discs in front and 11.9-inch solid discs in rear backed with ABS and EBD.

FIND A SLOT

The Lancer GTS competes chiefly with the sport-oriented Nissan Altima, and Mazda 3. While the refinement and driving qualities of those cars are a notch higher I do like the aggressive styling of the Lancer GTS better, and the value story is hard to ignore. My tester GTS had a base price of \$18,490 and added the Sun and Sound package (roof, Sirius sat. and 650-watt stereo) for \$1,500 along with the Navigation & Tech package (entry system, navi system) for \$2,000. Destination charge added \$625 for an as tested price of just \$22,615. This is very reasonable for the styling performance and utility this sedan delivers.

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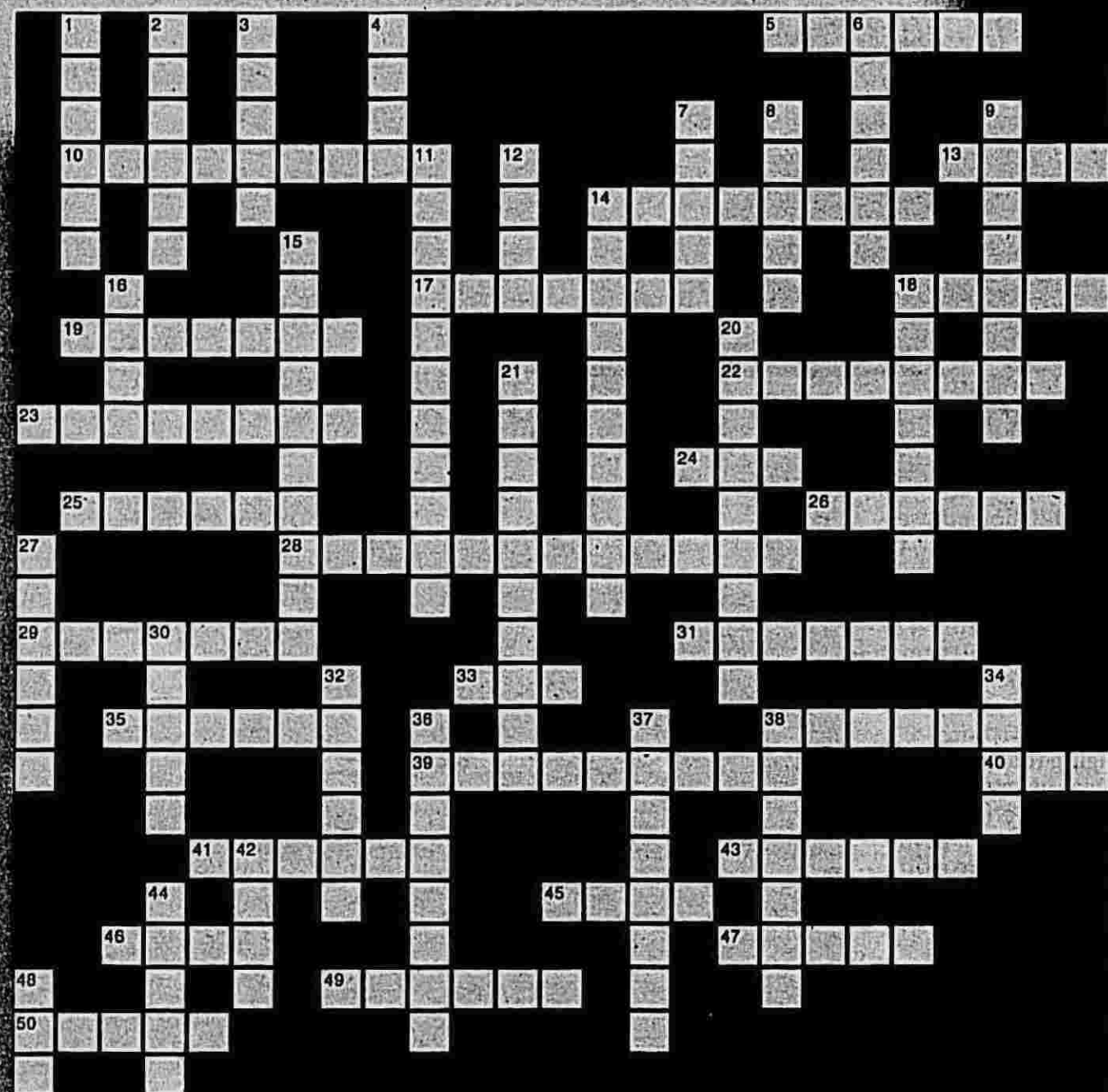
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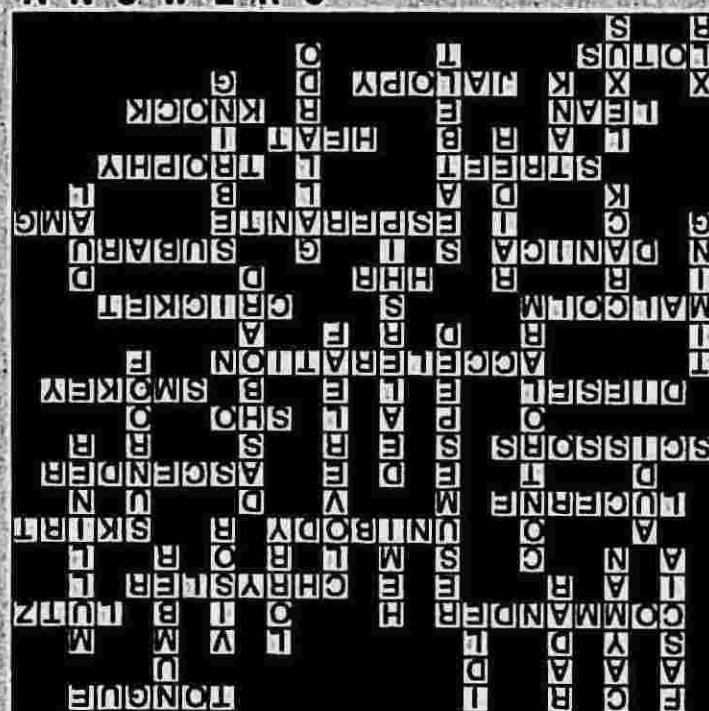
5. Hitch part
10. Full-size Jeep wagon
13. General Motors Boss
14. Beverley Hillbillies auto sponsor
17. Frameless chassis
18. Fender cover
19. LeSabre replacement
22. Isuzu sport-ute
23. Jack type
24. A hot Taurus
25. Jetta TDI's fuel
26. Race mechanic Yunick
28. Controlled by throttle
29. Car-builder Bricklin
31. 1970s imported Plymouth
33. Retro-styled Chevy
35. IRL driver Patrick
38. Fuji Heavy Industries brand
39. Panoz product
40. M-B in-house tuner
41. Illegal race venue
43. Borg-Warner Indy prize
45. Some car seats offer this
46. Air-rich carb setting
47. Higher octane prevents this
49. Term describing old car
50. Europa maker



D O W N

1. Grille, bumper, et al
2. Porsche named for Caribbean isle
3. _____-enforced (road sign)
4. Not in gear
6. 'N' in VIN
7. British commercial vehicle
8. Glare protector
9. British limo builder
11. Post-construction advisory
12. '51 Chrysler engine option
14. Freeway entry/exit
15. Lower or upper suspension piece
16. Quattro creator
18. Creates cabin brightness
20. Gauges housed here
21. New-car sales/service
27. Strobe light used to adjust this
30. Windshield problem
32. Mitsubishi pickup
34. Exhaust type
36. Secure this before driving
37. Murciélago's relative
38. Sedan or convertible brand
42. Armored vehicle
44. IS 350, RX 330, LS 430
48. Caddy coupe/roadster

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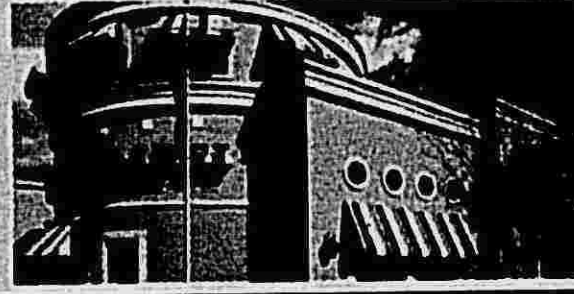
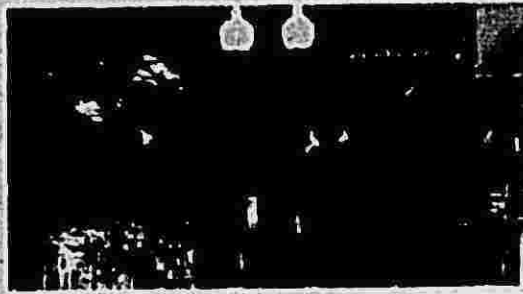
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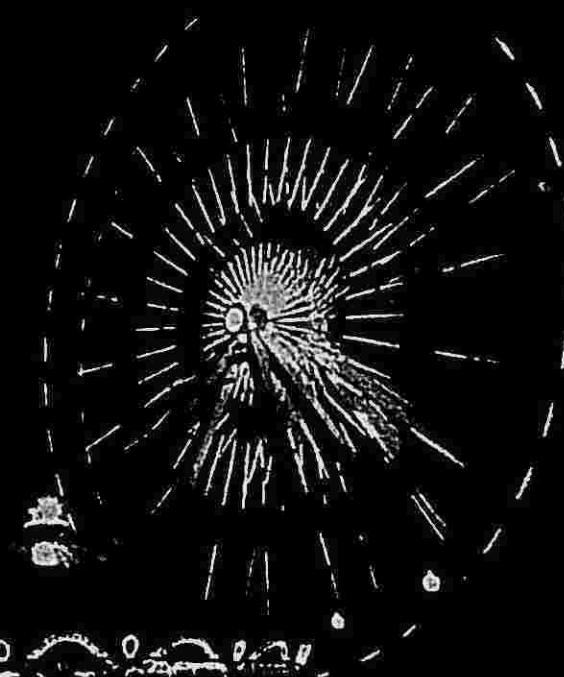
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RELATED

Housing near Midway Airport takes off as city's best new-home deal

The Midway Airport area on the Southwest Side is taking off as the place to find the Windy City's most affordable new homes and condominiums located near good neighborhood amenities and great transportation options.

Take a drive from downtown along Archer Avenue, or "Archey Road," as old-timers call it, and follow this main street of the Southwest Side that parallels the Stevenson Expressway through the neighborhoods of Chinatown, Bridgeport, McKinley Park, Brighton Park and Archer Heights.

You'll pass through a patchwork of brick bungalows and apartments, truck terminals, railroad crossings, switchyards, small shops, bakeries, delicatessens, restaurants, food boutiques and culturally-oriented nightclubs that cater to the Southwest Side's ethnic residents.

At Pulaski Road and 51st Street, just south of Archer and Pulaski, and northeast of Midway Airport, is the West Elsdon neighborhood — where nearly 500 new homes and condominiums now are under construction or planned, real estate sources say.

West Elsdon is roughly bounded by the Orange Line tracks on the north, 59th Street on the south, Central Park Avenue on the east and Midway Airport on the west. The neighborhood shares borders with Archer Heights on the north and West Lawn on the south.

ELSDON VILLAGE

One major new-construction project is the 280-unit Elsdon Village, an \$80 million development planned for launch late next spring on a 10-acre site at 51st Street and Homan Avenue.

"Buyers from all over the city will be coming to see what Elsdon Village has to offer," predicted veteran developer Anthony DeGrazia, president DeGrazia Development Co. "Working-class people — police officers, firefighters, teachers — they're people who want to live in the city, and Elsdon Village will provide a luxurious, yet affordable option for them."

Next spring, DeGrazia plans to begin a sneak preview marketing program for brick bungalow starter homes priced from \$299,000 — the most affordable new single-family homes in Chicago, according to Vision Group Realty & Marketing, the exclusive sales and marketing agent.

"The development offers affordable starter homes for first-time buyers," DeGrazia said. "The new Elsdon Village is perfect for young buyers looking for their first home."

The two-bedroom, two-bath bungalows will have 982 square feet of space on one level, plus an unfinished basement that provides space for a third bedroom and another bath. The bungalows are planned for 26-by-78-foot lots.

"It's a challenge for young buyers with average median incomes to afford new single-family homes in the city," DeGrazia said. "I understand the need in the housing marketplace for affordable starter homes designed for people in their early 30s."

Elsdon Village already has received approval from the Department of Planning, and zoning approval from the city followed. Construction is expected to start in autumn of 2008. The ambitious development will feature a total of 280 bungalow, bi-level and 2-story homes, duplex townhomes and condominiums.

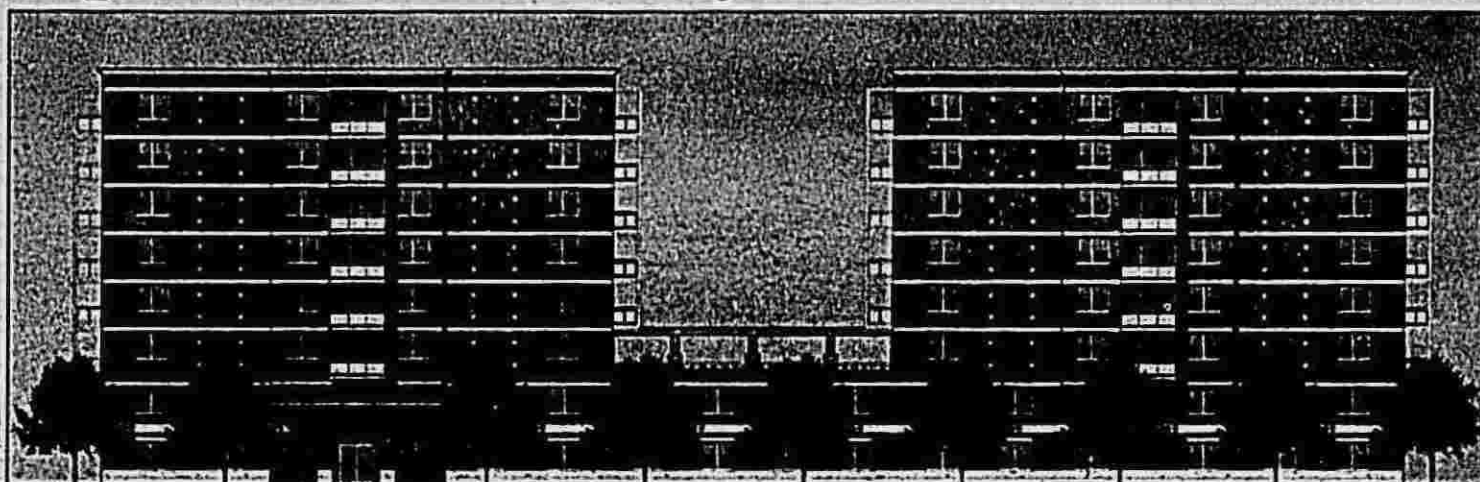
Plans for Elsdon Village call for an enclave of 120 condominiums in two 6-story buildings on the northeast corner of Homan Avenue and 50th Street. Twenty-four duplex townhomes are planned on the northwest corner of St. Louis Avenue and 50th Street.

A mix of 86 bungalows, bi-levels, 2-story single-family homes and 2-flats will be developed on the site bounded by St. Louis, 50th Street, Homan and 51st Street.

Phase I will consist of 70 units, DeGrazia said. It will be a mix of townhomes, single-family homes and 2-flats.

"These are Old School Chicago bungalows and 2-flats," DeGrazia said.

One-bedroom and two-bedroom condominiums with one or two baths feature 820 to 1,120 square feet of living space. Prices



Elsdon Village will feature an enclave of 120 condominiums in two six-story buildings on the northeast corner of Homan Avenue and 50th Street.

range from \$179,900 to the mid-\$260,000s.

Each condominium will have two balconies. The condominium development will include two levels of parking with 120 parking spaces.

A 30,000-square-foot park with gazebo fountain will be the focal point of the condominium enclave. Common area amenities will include a patio, recreation center, outdoor pool and workout room.

Built side-by-side, the duplex townhomes, or "Park Homes," will have three bedrooms and two-and-a-half baths. Spacious 3-level residences will have about 2,000 square feet of living space and a two-car garage. Prices are projected to range from the low- to mid-\$300,000s.

The remaining homes are a mix of single-family and 2-flats, including a group of two-bedroom bungalows priced from \$299,000. Bi-level homes with three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths and 1,489 square feet are expected to be in the \$450,000 range.

Larger single-family homes with 2,769 square feet, five bedrooms and four-and-a-half baths are expected to be priced from \$550,000 and designed for move-up buyers with children.

Two-flats feature 1,846-square-foot owner's unit with three bedrooms and two-and-a-half baths and a one-bedroom, one-bath garden apartment or in-law unit with 900 square feet of space. Two-flats are priced from \$360,000.

Most of the single-family homes and 2-flats will be built on 30-by-78-foot lots. Half of the single-family home and 2-flat mix will have attached garages, while the other half will have detached garages. For more information on Elsdon Village please call (773) 847-4669 or visit www.ElsdonVillage.com.

Here are details on other major West Elsdon new housing developments:

PARK PLACE HOMES

This 176-unit development at 3630 W. 51st Street showcases single-family homes priced from \$339,900 and townhomes starting at \$299,900, according to New West Realty, the developer. Nearly 25-percent of Phase I is sold at the gated, master-planned community. Three models are scheduled for completion in late winter. First closings are scheduled for January of 2008.

Park Place Homes includes a mix of 89 single-family homes, 74 townhomes and 18 condominiums. The 14.8-acre site at the northwest corner of Lawndale and 51st includes property formerly occupied by the World's Finest Chocolate facility.

"One of our goals in creating Park Place Homes was to develop a classic, yet affordable neighborhood that provides homeownership options to a wider range of income levels," said developer Ted Mazola, president of New West Realty.

At Park Place Homes, young families and first-time buyers are being attracted to the low price points, while move-up buyers from the surrounding neighborhoods are excited by the chance



Aerial view of Park Place Homes, a master-planned community of 211 residences, including single-family homes, townhomes and condominiums.

to own a more modern, new-construction home, Mazola said.

Buyers employed by the City of Chicago may qualify for \$2,500 of upgrades to maximize their investment.

"A lot of city workers call the Southwest Side home because it's very family-friendly, yet within the city limits and close to public transportation," he noted.

Three different single-family home floor plans are available. The homes range in size from 1,700 to 2,800 square feet and feature three bedrooms, two or two-and-a-half baths, a patio or deck and one-car or two-car garage.

The interiors are designed for modern living with open floor plans, while the exteriors are influenced by traditional Chicago architecture.

"Features like a mud room, family room and kitchen island make the new single-family plans very kid-friendly," said Terrie Whittaker, president of sales and marketing for New West Realty.

Park Place Homes also offers amenities including an outdoor swimming pool, clubhouse with fitness center, party room, kitchenette and screening room, and 1-acre park.

"Because these are private amenities exclusively for the residents of this gated community, it helps give parents piece of mind. Plus it helps build a sense of community among neighbors, too," Mazola said.

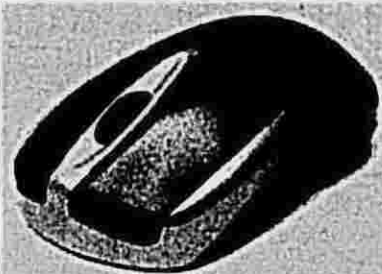
The development is only eight miles from the Loop, and both the Pulaski and Kedzie CTA Orange Line stops are within walking distance.

The on-site sales center located at 3630 W. 51st St. is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and from noon to 5 p.m. on weekends. For more information, please call (773) 735-7533, or www.parkplacehomeschicago.com.

TOWNHOMES AT 3601-3607 W. 53RD STREET

Already 75-percent sold, this 36-unit development features affordable three-bedroom townhomes — each comes with two full baths and two powder rooms and 2,200 square feet of living area plus a two-car attached garage.

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 landerson@suntimes.com

Lindsey Mangurten
 (312) 321-2929
 Fax: (312) 321-0269
 lmangurten@suntimes.com

EDITORIAL & DESIGN

Marcy Marro(847) 486-6841

*Today's New Homes Editor
 Special Sections Editor*

Camilo Alfaro(847) 486-7282

Special Sections Editor

Story information should be e-mailed to
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Holiday gift: Outlook brightens for lower home-loan rates in 2008

A holiday gift of for thousands of prospective homebuyers and homeowners seeking to refinance could be on the horizon in the form of lower interest rates, experts say.



There is a great possibility for locking in a 30-year fixed home-loan at less than 6 percent interest in early 2008. Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported that benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 5.96 percent in early December, down from 6.10 percent in late November.

"With lower consumer spending and personal income gains in October, interest rates on U.S. Treasury securities fell lower in early December and mortgage rates followed," said Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac vice president and chief economist.

Freddie Mac said the key 30-year fixed mortgage average has not been lower since the week ending September 29, 2005, when it averaged 5.91 percent. Last year at this time, the 30-year fixed loan averaged 6.11 percent.

With recent rate declines, a 5.96 percent 30-year fixed home-loan rate is only 0.75 percentage points above the 40-year historical rock-bottom of the market—5.21 percent in June of 2003, experts say.

Since mid-June of this year, long-term home-loan rates have gradually declined more than three-quarters of 1 percentage point from a peak of 6.75 percent. That's the highest they've been since late July of 2006, when rates hit 6.80 percent.

The recent rate decline accelerated after the Federal Reserve Board cut the federal funds rate to 4.75 percent from 5.25 percent on September 18.

In early December, 15-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 5.65 percent, down from 5.73 percent a week earlier. The 15-year fixed loan average has not been lower since mid-October of 2005, when it averaged 5.62 percent. A year ago, it averaged 5.84 percent.

Five-year Treasury-indexed hybrid adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.75 percent in early December, down from 5.86 percent a week early. The 5-year ARM has not been lower since late October of 2005 when it averaged 5.63 percent. A year ago, the 5-year ARM averaged 5.92 percent.

Experts say it is likely that home-loan rates will go lower in early 2008 if the Fed continues to cut interest rates, and that should give a lift to the residential real estate market which is reeling from the subprime loan disaster.

"The federal funds futures market currently indicates almost a 100-percent probability that the Fed will lower rates in its December 11 policy committee meeting," Nothaft said.

"Greater efficiencies and lower costs ease pressures for companies to raise prices and offer the Fed more leeway to reduce short-term rates," Nothaft noted. "These combined factors will likely diminish upward pressures on mortgage rates over the next few months."

Assuming another rate drop comes as expected, it is likely that homeowners who currently have an adjustable-rate mortgage due for readjustment, or an variable-rate home equity line credit on their home, or any loan that is tied to the prime lending rate could benefit from the interest-rate decline.

Starting early next year, analysts say the expected Fed-rate decrease could ripple through the rest of the home-loan system and give a long-needed boost to the nation's housing market.

The Home Front, Don DeBat's weekly real estate column syndicated by DeBat Media Services, unravels the complexities of home buying, mortgage shopping, homeownership, renting, building, renovation and remodeling. For more home-buying information visit his website at: www.dondebat.net.



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MORTGAGE NEWS

Bankrate mortgage update

By Holden Lewis • Bankrate.com

Mortgage rates have hit their lowest point in more than two years, as Fed officials made it crystal clear that the central bank will cut short-term rates next week.

The benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgage fell 17 basis points to 6 percent, according to the Bankrate.com national survey of large lenders. The benchmark 15-year fixed-rate mortgage fell 17 basis points to 5.68 percent. The benchmark 5/1 adjustable-rate mortgage fell 8 basis points to 6.1 percent. The 30-year fixed-rate jumbo mortgage, for home loans greater than \$417,000, fell 12 basis points, to 7.12 percent.

The last time the 30-year fixed was lower was in late September 2005, when the benchmark rate was 5.97 percent. To the consternation of central bankers, the 30-year fixed had remained stubbornly below 6 percent for half a year, despite a series of Federal Reserve rate increases.

At the time, the national housing market was peaking. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita had recently hit the Gulf Coast less than a month apart, disrupting energy supplies and sowing fear that inflation would return, led by high fuel prices. Alan Greenspan, then-chairman of the Fed, was complaining that long-term interest rates were too low to keep inflation at bay, and he wanted them higher.

Greenspan got his wish. The 30-year fixed mortgage rate burst through 6 percent the next week, at the beginning of October 2005. Over the next 26 months, it never fell below 6.08 percent — until now.

Economic conditions are different now. Back then, housing prices were near their peak; now they're still heading down. Back then, higher fuel prices led to fears of inflation; now higher fuel prices cause worries of an economic slowdown. Back then, the Fed was raising short-term rates; now the Fed is cutting them. Another rate reduction is expected Dec. 11.

Key definitions

5/1 ARM: A 5/1 ARM is an adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) that has an initial interest rate for five years, and thereafter has an adjustment interval of one year. The adjustment is based on (or "indexed to") another rate — often the yield on a Treasury note.

Closing Costs: Expenses incurred by buyers and sellers when transferring ownership of property. Closing costs include lender fees, title charges, government recording fees, escrow and pre-paid items.

Points: A point equals 1 percent of a mortgage or other loan. Some lenders charge "origination points" to cover expenses of making a loan. Some borrowers pay "discount points" to reduce the loan's interest rate.

Amortization: The payment of a debt in installments over an agreed-upon period, during which principal and interest are paid off.

APR: Annual Percentage Rate. A yearly rate of interest that includes fees and costs paid to acquire the loan. Lenders are required by law to disclose the APR. The rate is calculated in a standard way, taking the average compound interest rate over the term of the loan, so borrowers can compare loans.

Fixed: The payment of a debt in installments over an agreed-upon period, during which principal and interest are paid off.

Terms: The time to the maturity of a loan or deposit, expressed in months or years.

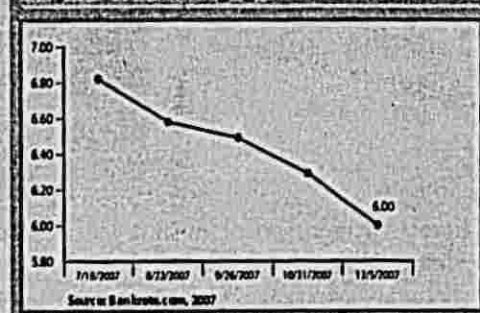
Mortgage tip:

The Fed's chairman and vice chairman, Ben Bernanke and Donald Kohn, have given speeches hinting at a rate cut in the last week. Expect a quarter- or half-point cut Dec. 11.

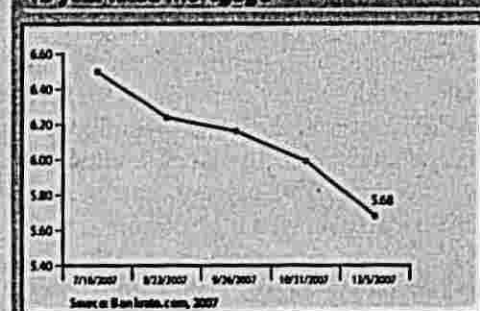
Bankrate National Index

	30 yr fx	15 yr fx	5 yr ARM
This week	6.00	5.68	6.10
Last week	6.17	5.85	6.21
Last year	6.08	5.83	5.95

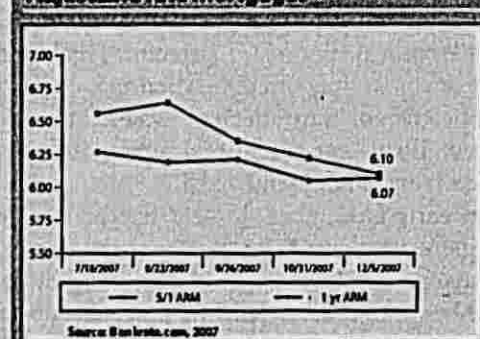
30 year fixed mortgage



15 year fixed mortgage

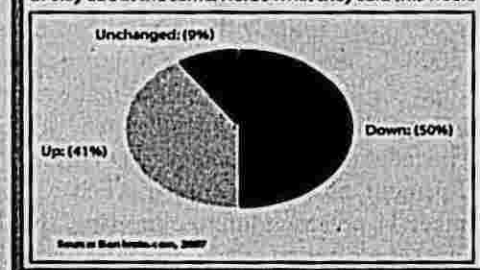


Adjustable rate mortgages



Mortgage rate trend index

Each week, Bankrate surveys mortgage experts to predict which way rates will go in coming weeks: up, down or stay about the same. Here's what they said this week.



Cost of funds index

The industry uses the cost of funds index to determine the interest rate on a loan.

Index	Prime Rate	Fed Funds Rate	11th Dist. COF
This week	7.50	4.50	4.233
Last change	7.75	4.75	4.383
Last year	8.25	5.25	4.346

For more information please visit www.bankrate.com.

Cost of funds index

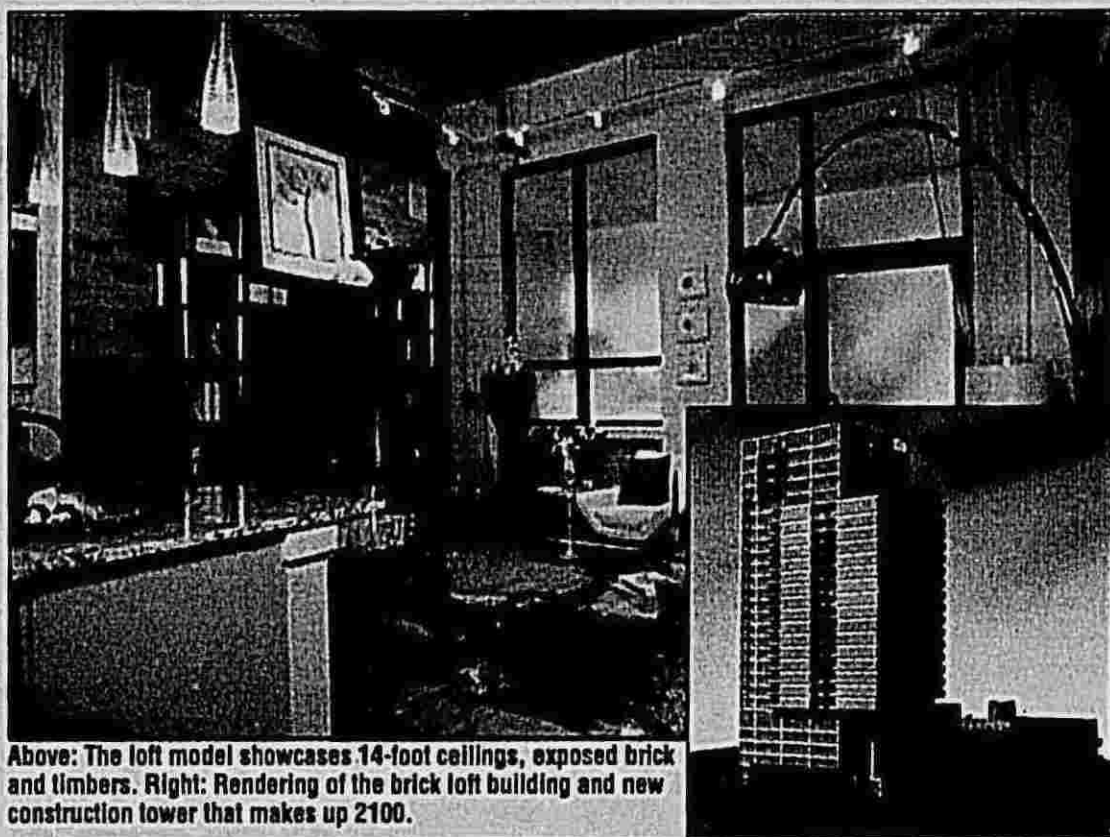
The industry uses the cost of funds index to determine the interest rate on a loan.

Loan program	Rate	Monthly payment
1 yr ARM	6.07%	\$996.70
5/1 ARM	6.10%	\$999.89
15 yr fixed	5.68%	\$1,364.00
30 yr fixed	6.00%	\$989.26

For more information please visit www.bankrate.com.

Loan program	Rate	Monthly payment
30 yr jumbo	7.12%	\$2,929.21
Home equity loan		
30K HEL	8.02%	\$608.58

Source: Bankrate.com. For more comprehensive, objective and free personal finance information go to Bankrate.com — www.bankrate.com



Above: The loft model showcases 14-foot ceilings, exposed brick and timbers. Right: Rendering of the brick loft building and new construction tower that makes up 2100.

Vintage, contemporary styles combine at 2100

BY MARCY MARRO
Today's New Homes Editor

Old and new. Classic and contemporary. Vintage and modern. These are all ways to describe the two buildings with two very distinct styles that make up 2100 S. Indiana by Rokas International.

A four-story vintage exposed brick and timber lofts are on one side. On the other, admire a 26-story new construction glass and concrete high-rise tower. Connected with a spacious contemporary lobby staffed by a 24-hour doorman, loft owners can share in the upscale amenities that come with a new construction condominium building.

"At 2100, buyers will enjoy the vintage styling of timber and exposed brick of the existing building but, because it is interconnected with new-construction condominiums, all the advantages and amenities of a modern development," said Andrius Augunas, founder and principal of Rokas International, Inc. "Our lofts include technologically savvy tools, as well as contemporary finishes, that would make any new home exceptional."

Amenities at 2100 include a state-of-the-art fitness center, media room with large-screen TV and DVD hook-up and wireless business lounge, all located off of the landscaped sundeck with full-length pool, outdoor hot tub and private dog run. The deck also has a play area and landscaped green roof. The community also features indoor bicycle storage and private storage areas. Residents also have the option to purchase parking in the secured, private lot.

The 2100's sales center is currently located on the first floor of the loft building, and it features a one-bedroom loft floor plan model and a two-bedroom, two-bath condominium floor plan model. Showcasing both loft and condominium models allows prospective buyers to see the 14-foot ceilings with exposed ductwork and timber beams standard in the loft homes versus the upscale, sophisticated looks of the modern condominiums.

"At 2100, we offer two different home concepts that fit a variety of lifestyles," Augunas said. "With a decorated model of each, buyers can experience which style best suits them."

The 2100 will feature 42 lofts on three floors above commercial retail space on the first floor. Loft floor plans range in size from studios to two-bedroom homes. One hundred and sixty-three one- to three-bedroom condominiums are in the high-rise building. All homes range in size from 717 to 2,485 square feet. Loft homes start at \$189,900, and the condominiums are priced from the low \$200,000s.

"The wonderful thing about buying a new construction loft is being able to choose your own fin-

ishes," said Blythe Whitmer, 2100 project manager. "Buyers at 2100 have the ability to buy something new and put their mark on it."

Loft and condominium residences at 2100 feature a balcony or terrace, per plan, hardwood flooring in the kitchen and living areas, wall-to-wall carpeting in the bedrooms, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and Grohe faucets in the kitchen. Additionally, master baths incorporate natural stone.

"First-time buyers are drawn to the loft homes because of their reasonable prices, fantastic finishes and upscale amenities," Augunas said. "However, the idea of buying from a floor plan can be daunting for someone new to the home-buying process. The loft model really brings the floor plan to life, making it simple for a buyer to picture where they would put their furniture and how their life would fit into the space."

"Buyers love the condo model because it shows extensive upgrades. When they view all the possibilities, it's easier to decide which ones to budget for," Augunas continued. "They also love seeing one of 2100's most exciting standard amenities — the Smart Home system."

Every home at 2100 comes standard with a Smart Home system that allows owners to control all of its media devices, lights, heating, security system and more through one touch-screen device. The Smart Home system comes complete with a remote control, so owners can operate the system from any room in their home. The system is also wireless, which allows owners to access their lights, heat and more from a laptop. All homes will also be pre-wired for high-speed Internet, cable and telephone access.

"It's unusual to find an authentic loft where the homeowner can change the temperature of their home from anywhere, via the Internet," Augunas said.

The lofts have an expected delivery of fall 2008, while first residents in the condos are expected to take delivery as early as fall 2009. Currently just less than 50 percent of the lofts and 25 percent of the condos have been sold.

"There are still a wide variety of floor plans available," Whitmer said.

The 2100 is located at Indiana and 22nd Street in the South Loop, just blocks away from Lake Michigan and within minutes of Grand Park, Soldier Field and the Museum Campus. Interstate 55 and public transportation including the CTA Red Line and Metra trains are nearby.

The sales center is located on the first floor of 2100 S. Indiana. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information on 2100 S. Indiana, please call (312) 277-2100 or visit www.2100condos.com.

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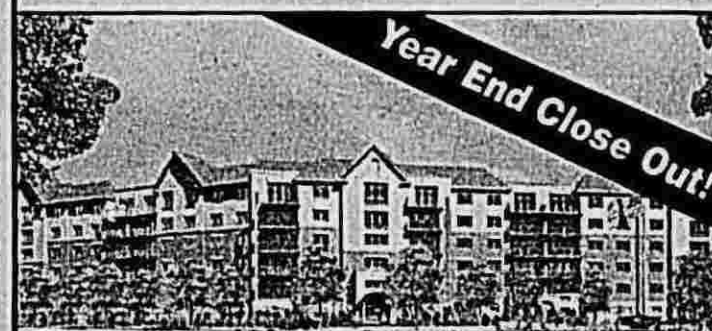
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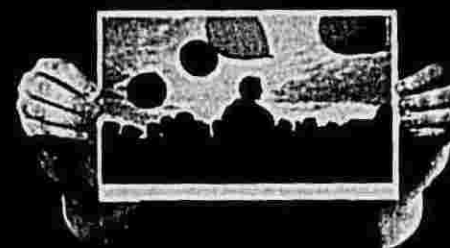
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Focus Development recently unveiled two new luxury condominium models at Courthouse Square — including this two-bedroom, two-bath furnished model.

Two luxury condo models open at Courthouse Square

Focus Development recently unveiled two new luxury condominium models in Wheaton at Courthouse Square — site of the historic DuPage County Courthouse campus that is now a master-planned, mixed-use community of upscale condominiums and townhomes.

The first model is fully furnished and decorated by Toms Price Home Furnishings of Wheaton, and the second will serve as Focus Development's on-site sales office and selections center, said Tim Anderson, President of Focus Development.

"Located in Building I, both new models are representative of the spacious plans, open layouts and thoughtful amenities that we offer at Courthouse Square," he said.

The decorated model, a two-bedroom, two bath design with a den, flaunts a transitional theme that balances a contemporary flair with traditional furnishings—including Stickley and Baker furniture pieces. Awash in soft yellows and greens, the model is consistent with the color palette employed in the building's handsome hallways and lobby. Elaborate wood trim, detailed crown moulding and sleek lines—from the chair rails to the headboards—further distinguish the home.

"There is plenty that catches the eye and captures the imagination in our furnished model, which we've dressed up nicely with a number of key extras and upgrades," Anderson said. "The kitchen, for example, features stainless steel appliances, St. Cecilia granite countertops, 42-inch maple cabinets and an eat-in area. Adjacent is a decorate Juliette balcony, which adds extra light and air to what is already one of the best spaces in the home."

The den, meanwhile, is showcased as a relaxing home office. A full balcony bridges the gap between the den and the great room, each of which boast rich hardwood floors. A dining alcove is included in the great room.

While it is not fully decorated, the second model also embodies the openness and flexibility endowed in every Courthouse Square condominium, Anderson noted. Providing two bedrooms and two-and-a-half baths, this residence has a den accessible via the main entrance and the large great room, a two-sided fireplace, and a nicely-equipped, open kitchen with an eat-in area. Visitors can browse the well-stocked selections area, featuring several displays that offer a wide variety of flooring materials, brand-name fixtures, cabinetry choices and more.

Bordered by Willow Avenue and Liberty

Drive to the south, Naperville Road and Washington Street to the east, Reber Street to the west, and train tracks to the north, the 6.1-acre Courthouse Square property will include Focus Development's three new seven-story buildings offering 182 condominium residences on the property's west parcel.

Buyers can choose from a limited number of condominiums remaining in Building I—including some ready for immediate delivery—each including one, two or three bedrooms, one to two-and-a-half baths and a den (per plan)—base priced from the \$250,000s to the \$580,000s. Square footages span approximately 800 to 2,000 square feet.

One corner unit penthouse residence is also available in Building I, featuring two bedrooms and a den, a gourmet kitchen, great room with fireplace, master bedroom suite with sitting area, two balconies and spectacular views—priced at \$599,900. In addition, buyers can claim a number of other corner units with extra windows offering preferred views and ample sunlight.

Shoppers can also select from 12 new floorplans in Building II, each providing one, two or three spacious bedrooms plus den, one to two-and-a-half bathrooms, kitchens with granite countertops and European-style cabinets, a large terrace or balcony, one deeded parking space, and between 790 to 1,953 square feet. Prices start in the \$260,000s for one-bedroom units and in the \$350,000s for two-bedroom units.

"In fact, we recently re-invented a few designs in Building II and made them larger in response to customer requests," said Anderson. "So for those who desire extra living space, we now have a wider range of designs to choose from than before. Plus, we will be introducing all new floorplans in Building III when sales commence early next year."

Focus Development also is converting the interior of the 110-year-old courthouse building itself into a limited number of vintage-style condos, which will be ready for move-in by late 2007. Priced from \$849,900 to \$1.69 million, these deluxe customizable condominiums will each offer two to three bedrooms, two to three-and-a-half baths, a den and/or family room (per plan), and 2,251 to 4,683 square feet.

Anderson added that one of the residences in the historic courthouse building was featured in Wheaton's 28th Annual House Walk, sponsored by the Center for History—A Facility of the Wheaton Historic

Preservation Council—and held October 12.

"Ours was the only condominium residence included in the prestigious House Walk home show, which also exhibited four single-family homes in Wheaton," said Anderson. "The fact that we made the grade and were chosen to represent the best that Wheaton has to offer says a lot about the caliber of homes we're crafting at Courthouse Square."

In late summer, Courthouse Square opened its community center building, which was formerly the campus' States Attorney's Office Building. Aside from housing professional office space, this facility provides community shared amenities such as a fitness center and a fully furnished hospitality suite complete with a gourmet kitchen for parties and meetings. The community center swimming pool will open next summer.

"There are so many advantages to living at Courthouse Square," said Anderson, who added that the first homeowners are now moving in. "Residents enjoy heated underground parking and outdoor guest parking areas, plentiful green and open space—representing more than 55 percent of the entire property—and an attractive retention pond."

What's more, Courthouse Square is within close proximity of Roosevelt Road, I-355, I-88, and the downtown Wheaton Metra station—which zips commuters off to downtown Chicago in 45 minutes. Arrowhead Golf Club, Herrick Lake Forest Preserve, Wheaton Waterpark and shopping at Danada Square and Oakbrook Center mall are among the many other area highlights.

Anderson said that the community enjoyed an overwhelmingly positive response to its model grand opening earlier this year, attended by more than 500 visitors the first day. The strong initial interest has led to brisk sales, accounting for why Building I is now 85 percent sold and 40 percent of the units in Building II have been claimed. Overall, more than one third of Focus Development's condominiums have been claimed.

To reach Focus Development's new condominium models, take I-88 west to I-355 north and exit at Roosevelt Road west; take Roosevelt Road to Naperville Road; turn right and take Naperville Road to Liberty Drive, and proceed to Building I at 255 E. Liberty Dr. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Call Focus at (630) 690-5900 for more information on the condominiums or visit www.focusdevelopment.com.

MIDWAY FROM PAGE 3

Airport, City of Chicago employees and professionals employed in the Loop who grew up in the neighborhood," said Melissa Govendavica of Sergio & Banks Realty, the exclusive sales and marketing agents.

Built by Ramt Development, the four-building community consists of two clusters of brick townhomes overlooking landscaped courtyards.

The remaining nine townhomes range in price from \$269,900 to \$279,900. Two units are ready for immediate occupancy and seven more will be available in 90 days. The monthly assessment is \$89 for water usage, garbage removal and common-area maintenance, which includes landscape upkeep and snow removal.

The townhomes feature a sunken living room with fireplace and 14-foot ceiling. Granite kitchens showcase 42-inch cabinets and a full appliance package. Master bedrooms feature a cathedral ceiling. Hardwood floors are included in main living areas. Washer/dryer is standard.

Sergio & Banks Realty is hosting a Sunday open houses for the development at 3601 W. 53rd Street between noon and 3 p.m., or by appointment. Please call (630) 973-7745, or visit the website: www.3601w53rdst.com.

In the 1880s, West Elsdon's original residents were German farmers and Irish railroad workers, historians say. Development of the Clearing Industrial District and the opening of Chicago

Municipal Airport (Midway Airport) just to the west in 1927 made the area an attractive place to settle for the new residents, primarily Polish and Czech, along with Italians, Yugoslaves and Lithuanian immigrants.

However, West Elsdon remained rural through the Great Depression. As late as 1938, historians say cows and goats still grazed along 55th Street.

A post World War II building boom swelled the population to 14,215 in 1960 from 3,255 in 1940, as West Elsdon

attracted developers who erected brick bungalows and raised ranches for the area's predominantly blue-collar families. Many of the homes originally built and sold in the 1940s and 1950s are still owned by the same families.

In 1993, the Chicago Transit Authority began rapid transit service to the Loop on its Orange Line, with a park-and-ride stations The Orange Line is easily accessible with stops the intersections of 48th Street and Kedzie Avenue, and Archer and Pulaski and at Midway Airport.

The Orange Line brought suburban-style retail development on Pulaski and raised property values nearby. Today, retail options at Pulaski Road and 46th Street include Pete's Produce, Target and Krispy Kreme. New retail is also planned.

Today, new families are moving to West Elsdon for its neighborhood amenities, including good schools, recreational opportunities and convenient transportation.

Nearby Pasteur Park, 5825 S. Kostner, has a gymnasium, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and an auditorium and community meeting rooms.

Students attend Pasteur and Peck Elementary School, 3826 W. 58th offers magnet programs in world languages and math/science. Curie Metropolitan High School, 4959 S. Archer, offers an international baccalaureate program and magnet program in fine arts.

The West Elsdon community features a number of shopping and dining options at nearby Midway Square Mall, as well as ethnic restaurants, stores and a movie theatre complex in the adjacent West Lawn and Chicago Lawn neighborhoods.

"Buyers from all over the city will be coming to see what Elsdon Village has to offer. Working-class people — police officers, firefighters, teachers — they're people who want to live in the city, and Elsdon Village will provide a luxurious, yet affordable option for them."

Anthony DeGrazia,
president
DeGrazia Development Co.



Mayor Kerry Cummings of Glenview, Toll Brothers Senior Vice President Andy Stern and Project Manager Brian Wulfstiegl were on hand to break ground at Patriot Commons, a community of luxury townhomes and condos at The Glen in Glenview.

Toll Brothers celebrates ground breaking at Patriot Commons

Glenview Mayor Kerry Cummings and village dignitaries gathered with Toll Brothers executives to celebrate the opening of Patriot Commons, a community of innovative condominiums and townhomes at The Glen being developed on the last parcel of land within The Glen.

"We're excited about our partnership with Toll Brothers at The Glen," said Mayor Cummings. "They met our lofty goals by creating a unique land plan keeping in harmony with our golf course and providing green view corridors for Patriot Commons' residents as well as their neighbors at Chestnut Square."

She added that Toll Brothers sales success may be attributed to an excellent location, a variety of home designs, and the high quality of construction.

According to Toll Brothers Senior Vice President Andy Stern, "We're proud to play an important role in developing the last piece of land at The Glen, the North Shore's most successful master planned community."

Senior Project Manager Brian Wulfstiegl echoed his sentiments and added, "The desirability of living at Patriot Commons at The Glen cannot be underestimated, as buyers continue to purchase new homes when offered a superior product built in the right location."

Patriot Commons is an exclusive neighborhood featuring exquisite condominium and townhome designs, priced from the low \$400,000s, within a prestigious master planned community located next to The Glen Club championship golf course.

"Forty-one homes have sold and we continue to see a strong demand, perhaps because this is the last parcel of land at The Glen," added Stern.

A large selection of townhomes and condominiums are now available.

Buyers are impressed with the fact that 30 percent of the community is open land. Specifically centered within the community are two private landscaped courtyards designed as a gathering spot for friends and neighbors. One has park benches, a rock garden, walkways and trellised shade canopies, while the other provides an open green space for rest and relaxation.

Elegant low-maintenance condominiums priced from the low \$400,000s feature gracious single-level one or two-bedroom plus den home designs with one-and-a-half to two baths and 1,000 to 1,500 square feet of luxury living. Many offer breathtaking golf course views.

Building exteriors will feature brick, stone and HardiPlank siding, and private balconies. Inside there will be 9-foot ceilings, hardwood floors and colonial-style baseboards and trim. Kitchens and baths feature the same upscale products as do the townhomes.

Inside, the elegant entrance lobby will have two elevators and a front-entry intercom system. Also there will be fire alarm and sprinkler systems in each home, secure climate-controlled indoor garage parking space, a secure storage area, a fitness center and common party room.

Low-maintenance townhomes feature spec-

tacular home designs with one- or two-story living, two or three bedrooms and two-and-a-half baths. Some plans include first-floor master bedrooms, a sunken living room, vaulted ceilings, dramatic 9-foot first-floor ceiling and 8-foot second-floor ceilings and garage parking.

Homes have 1,750 to 2,100 square feet of space and are priced from the upper \$500,000s. Upscale features are sure to satisfy the most discerning home buyers.

The two-bedroom, two bath Hargrove is a popular ranch style townhome at Patriot Commons. Special features include a foyer with decorative columns and access to the spacious living room and formal dining room. The living room has a fireplace and tray ceiling, while the kitchen has a breakfast room that opens to a covered porch with additional access to the master bedroom. There are 9-foot ceilings throughout and an attached one-car garage with one assigned exterior space.

Luxury inclusions in all Patriot Commons homes are substantial millwork including two-piece crown moldings in the entrance foyer, living and dining rooms, while the kitchen has granite countertops in an array of colors with stainless steel double bowl undermount sinks, 42-inch wood cabinets with crown molding, stainless steel GE appliances and Kohler faucets.

Bathrooms feature Jacuzzi soaking tubs with separate shower and ceramic wall tile, Kohler faucets, ceramic floors and tub and shower surrounds. Also included are Energy efficient low-E Andersen wood windows and Peachtree front doors, HardiPlank siding, a sprinkler system, and a security system with 24-hour monitoring.

When it comes time to choosing all the products and colors for their new home, buyers can make their interior selections at Toll Brothers Design Studio in Schaumburg and work with professionally trained designers.

Within The Glen owners will find a variety of recreational activities. Gallery Park surrounding Lake Glenview, adjacent to Patriot Commons at The Glen features playgrounds, gardens, athletic fields, tennis courts, walking and biking trails, and picnic areas. Kohl Children's Museum offers fun-filled and engaging learning activities for children. Park Center boasts a state-of-the-art fitness center, indoor swimming pool, jogging and walking track and a gymnasium.

Many buyers love the convenience of living at The Glen. Patriot Commons is five minutes from I-94 and commuting by train to Chicago is an easy 30-minute ride on the Metra from the Depot Avenue stop within The Glen. O'Hare Airport can be reached in just 20 minutes, while Midway Airport is 50 minutes away.

From I-94, exit Lake Ave. West for three miles and turn right onto Patriot Blvd. Go north one mile and turn left on Chestnut Ave. to Sales Center. The Sales Center is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (847) 486-1493, or visit TollBrothers.com.

TNH IN BRIEF

HomeAid Chicago remodels Schaumburg group home for abused, neglected girls

Volunteers update bathrooms, flooring and more in 100-plus-year-old home

HomeAid Chicago, Pulte Homes and an army of volunteers have rolled up their sleeves to transform a 100-plus-year-old farmhouse into a safe refuge that children in need can comfortably call home. The team recently collaborated to renovate sections of a Schaumburg emergency shelter for 11- to 17-year-old girls who have been abused or neglected or who are dependent or in need of supervision.

Built in the late 1800s and operated by Shelter, Inc. — an Arlington Heights-based nonprofit social services agency dedicated to helping abused and neglected children — The Jennings Group Home for Girls had a longstanding need for updated bathrooms, flooring, wall repair and new lighting fixtures. HomeAid Chicago, the charity of choice of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago, learned of these pressing needs and rounded up several volunteers to tackle the worthy cause. Among them was Pulte Homes as well as trade partners like Kohler, Armstrong Flooring, Sherwin-Williams, Inland Electric Corp, Action Plumbing, Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters & Apprentices, Home Depot, Painters District Council No. 14, Carpenters Local 1185, Schaumburg-headquartered Coleman Floor Company, and Franklin Park-based Builders Lighting & Design, Inc.

"Three of the bathrooms required extensive renovation, as did the floors in the kitchen and laundry room," said Brian Brunhofer, President, the Chicago division of Pulte Homes. "The shelter also needed new lighting fixtures and wall repair and painting."

Brunhofer said the goal was to add more functionality and freshness to the group home and "help create a clean, comfortable, welcoming environment in which the children felt safe and special. We wanted to bring the home's look into the 21st century and enhance the house with attractive new fixtures and materials to make it feel less like a shelter and more like the cozy, inviting home that it is."

Carol Brown, director of development for Shelter, Inc., is grateful to all the contributors who donated their time, effort and resources to complete the project in only a few days.

"We are honored to have been chosen by HomeAid Chicago for this very important project, which will help us continue to provide a safe and comfortable environment for adolescent girls in need," said Brown. "The generosity and selflessness of HomeAid Chicago, Pulte Homes and so many others in the community is appreciated and needed."

The Jennings Group Home for Girls — a converted farmhouse that is owned and maintained by the Village of Schaumburg — is equipped to serve as many as six girls (up to 17 years old) at a time who are referred from across the northwest suburbs. The shelter operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

"This residential facility is crucial to Schaumburg and the surrounding areas," said Natalie Ashton, executive director for HomeAid Chicago. "There aren't many safe shelters where neglected, abused and abandoned preadolescent and teenage girls can turn to, so it's very important that Shelter, Inc. has the resources it needs to properly care for these children. When we heard their call for remodeling help, we did everything we could to respond quickly."

Shelter, Inc. also provides the following programs and facilities: emergency, traditional and home-of-a-relative foster care; the emergency Boys Group Home in Palatine; a longer-term, transitional Older Adolescent Group Home for Boys ages 16 and 17; and a Healthy Families Program for first-time parents. To learn more, contact Shelter, Inc. at (847) 255-8060 or visit www.shelter-inc.org.

To volunteer for, donate to or learn more information about HomeAid Chicago and its other charitable projects, call (630) 627-7575 or visit www.homeaidchicago.org.

Prudential Preferred Properties to open new Lincoln Park sales office

Michael Pierson and Chris Elgel, principals of Prudential Preferred Properties, have announced that they will open a new office in Lincoln Park in early 2008. The new office makes ten for the company's Chicago-area locations. In addition to its newest location, PPP has opened offices on Michigan Avenue in Chicago and in Lake Forest, and soon will be relocating its Northbrook office to a new location.

The PPP Lincoln Park office will be located at 2301 N. Clark Street on the corner of Clark Street and Belden Avenue. Dennis Dooley, a 32-year veteran of Chicago real estate, will manage this highly visible location.

"We are already proud to offer our sales professionals outstanding marketing programs and comprehensive agent services. Now we can offer these services in an outstanding new facility at a prime location," Dooley said.

The 6,000-square-foot space, formerly home to Tower Records, will be completely renovated to include a wireless network, generous computer access, a marketing resource room, and sophisticated, contemporary décor. Designed to accommodate up to 125 sales professionals, there will also be a virtual agent center for those who opt to keep their primary office at home.

"At PPP, we are extremely focused on providing the tools necessary to help sales professionals grow their business," said Michael Pierson, PPP President and Chairman of the Board. "Through our Agent Advantage program, we offer 24-hour print marketing, vertical e-Marketing, Fine Homes International luxury marketing, and Preferred Development marketing — all of these services will be available in our new Lincoln Park location."

About Prudential Preferred Properties Prudential Preferred Properties has 10 sales offices with nearly 500 sales professionals and staff. The company soon will be relocating its Northbrook sales office to a new, state-of-the-art facility. More information is available at PruPref.com.

Holiday incentives abound at new home communities throughout Chicagoland

A new home may not be able to fit into your stocking this holiday season. But it sure could fit nicely into your budget, especially considering the sleigh full of specials and incentives currently being offered by new home builders throughout Chicagoland. Here's a seasonal sampler for you to consider putting on your wish list:

MOVE-IN READY IN AURORA

At Deerbrook in Aurora, Joe Keim Builders community of single-family luxury residences, several homes are available for immediate delivery—some of which include a \$30,000 discount for buyers that close prior to 12/31/07.

The Brighton, for example, offers four bedrooms in all, as well as three-and-a-half baths, a three-car garage, 10-foot ceilings and upgraded stainless steel appliances in the kitchen, formal dining room, first-floor den, full basement and a grand entrance with custom staircase. This Platinum Series residence, located at 2141 Roaring Creek Dr., is now specially priced at \$392,900 and spans 2,710 square feet.

If it's single-level living you desire, The Deerbrook ranch aims to please with its three bedrooms, two baths, full nine-foot lookout basement, impressive great room with an eye-catching fireplace, and luxury master bedroom with a tray ceiling and Whirlpool bath. Other highlights include an open and spacious kitchen with upgraded stainless steel appliances, oak flooring, an oversized island and an abundance of custom cabinetry with crown moulding. Set at 2082 Keim Dr., The Deerbrook is now priced at \$316,500 and features 1,613 square feet. To reach Deerbrook, take I-88 and head south on Route 59; head west on Ogden Avenue (Route 34); travel south on Farnsworth Road; turn left on Hafenrichter Road; turn right on Pine Creek Drive and proceed to the community. For more information, phone (630) 898-9477 or visit the on-site sales center. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Additionally, you can earn \$5,000 for the holidays if you refer a customer who ends up purchasing one of Joe Keim Builders' single-family inventory homes at any of its communities, including Deerbrook, Majestic Oaks in St. Charles, The Legends of Wheaton, or Corron Estates in St. Charles. The buyer must close by 12/31/07. For further details, visit www.jokeimbuilders.com.

CUSTOM HOME DREAMS

Empeco Custom Builders customers can take advantage of two specials good through February 15, 2008. With the first offer, Empeco will repair and prepare your existing home to sell quicker. Any money spent on the fix-ups will be refunded at the time of closing on your new Empeco custom home. With the second offer, Empeco will pay the mortgage on your existing home for up to one full year after you move into your new Empeco custom home. Anyone who signs a custom build-to-suit agreement with Empeco is eligible, although the offers cannot be combined. Empeco is currently building a variety of completely custom residences on scattered sites in a variety of suburban locations throughout Cook and Lake Counties. Prices range from \$1.2 to \$2 million (including homesite). For more details, visit www.empeco.com or call (847) 996-0855.

HOME SEEKERS IN THE SOUTHLAND

At The Residences at The Shorewood Towne Center, Distinctive Companies' newest and biggest community to date, which features 340 semi-custom, single-family residences in Shorewood, for a limited time only, buyers can take advantage of special incentives that add several standard inclusions to each new home, including: 8-foot ceilings; basements (per plan); sodded front yard and seeded side and rear yards; and all appliances—refrigerator, range, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Additionally, for a limited time buyers can select either a free third-car garage or \$10,000 that can be applied toward options of their choice. What's more, the starting base price on homes at the community has been reduced by \$10,000. Each of the community's 11 memorable designs includes three to five bedrooms, two to three-and-a-half baths, attached two- to three-car garage, full front porch, formal dining room and/or living room, large great room, master bedroom suite with a walk-in closet and full bath, kitchen complete with an oversized pantry, large dinette area and sliding glass door, and first-floor laundry room (per plan). Base prices range from \$279,990 to \$410,990, and sizes vary from 1,825 to 4,000 square feet. To reach The Residences at The Shorewood Towne Center, take I-55 south and exit on Rt. 52; head west three miles to the models. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For more information, call (815) 230-3030 or visit www.distinctive.biz.

Meanwhile, Lyng Builders now has two single-family inventory homes available for immediate delivery in the south suburbs. For buyers of either home who go to contract by 12/31/07, Lyng Builders will pay all gas and electric utility bills through May 31, 2008.

The first inventory home, "The Geneva," is located at 22370 Pine Ridge Dr. within Lakeview Estates in Frankfort. Loaded with four bedrooms plus a bonus room, three-and-a-half baths, a first-floor office, full walkout basement with volume ceilings and masonry fireplace, The Geneva also showcases a gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, KitchenAid and Bosch stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, a large eat-in island and a walk-in pantry. Other

highlights include a two-story foyer with an octagonal ceiling, a first-floor laundry/mud room with cabinetry, an extra-large family room with a full masonry fireplace, vaulted/tray ceilings in all bedrooms, decorative ceiling details in the dining room and foyer, rounded dry-wall corners, arched entryways and 3,300 square feet of living space. The Geneva is priced at \$624,900.

The second, "The Delevan," is set at 26849 Wedgewood Ln. in the Wedgewood Highlands (subdivision) of Channahon. Among the notables in this exquisite residence are four bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, full deep-poured basement with roughed-in bath, two-story foyer, formal dining room, first-floor office/playroom, hand-scraped oak plank flooring, three-car garage, first-floor mud/laundry room, island kitchen complete with granite countertops, maple cabinetry and stainless steel appliances, cedar deck, covered front porch with natural stone and cedar columns, and 3,200 square feet. The Delevan is priced at \$459,800. For more information or to make an appointment to view either home, call (815) 464-8133.

ATTACHED HOME HUNTERS

At Palatine Place, Focus Development's community in Palatine of 109 attached luxury residences, buyers can claim a second parking space (tandem) or \$10,000 off the purchase price for all contracts taken before the end of the year. Shoppers can select from an array of designs across three different product lines at Palatine Place: 101 traditional condominiums; two high-end penthouse condominiums; and 6 two-story, rowhome-style condominiums. Each home will boast one to three bedrooms, one to two-and-a-half baths, and 845 to 3,455 square feet, and some include a den or family room. All units will feature a deluxe master bath and an upgraded kitchen equipped with 42-inch maple cabinets, granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Base prices for the condominiums range from the \$220,000s to the upper \$500,000s, with the penthouses priced from the \$900,000s. The Palatine Place sales office and design studio is located at 1 N. Bothwell St., on the northeast corner of Palatine Road and Bothwell Street (one block west of Plumgrove Road). Take 290 West to Rt. 53 North; exit at Palatine Road West; cross over Northwest Highway and proceed to the community. Hours are daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (847) 991-0818 or visit www.focusdevelopment.com.

Elsewhere, KLM Builders, Inc. now has two great ways to save big on three different move-in ready townhomes at Woodland Ridge in Antioch, for a limited time. The first option is to lock in at a fixed 5 percent mortgage interest rate for three years if you finance through KLM Builders, Inc. (\$7,000 down payment required). With this offer, the monthly interest-only payment on one of the three town homes—The Catherine at 1025 Inverness Drive, for example—is only \$999 (which equates to nearly a \$15,000 discount off the home's already reduced sale price). After 36 months, you can either refinance the mortgage with another lender or pay off the balance in full. The second option is a rent-to-own program in which you can lease one of the three move-in ready town homes and get 50 percent of your rent money credited toward your down payment when you are ready to purchase. For instance, on The Catherine at 1025 Inverness Drive, monthly rent would be \$1,400 (with a \$7,000 down payment required up front). If you decide to buy after 12 months, \$8,400 of the rent money you paid would be applied toward the down payment. The three town homes these offers apply to are:

The Catherine at 1025 Inverness Drive, which includes a loft, interior arches in the kitchen/dining/living areas, hardwood floors in the kitchen and foyer, custom paint color, staggered-height upper kitchen cabinetry, solid-surface countertops, luxurious spa bath, rear patio and courtyard entry. At 1,687 square feet, The Catherine is priced from \$234,900 to \$249,900 (depending on which program you select) and ready for immediate move-in.

The Petite, located at 1021 Inverness Drive, which comes with a preferred conservation area view, an entertainment alcove, stacked stone fireplace in the expanded great room, loft, bay window in the master bedroom, hardwood floors in the kitchen and foyer, staggered-height upper kitchen cabinetry, spa bath, rear deck, and 1,760 square feet. The purchase price is \$274,900 to \$289,900 (depending on which program you select).

The Catherine at 1012 Inverness Drive, which offers a two-story family room, three bedrooms, maple kitchen cabinetry, spa bath, rear patio, interior arches in the kitchen/living/dining areas, courtyard entry, and 1,687 square feet. This Catherine is priced from \$239,900 to \$254,900 (depending on which program you select).

Town home sales for Woodland Ridge are being conducted at the on-site sales center at 1320 Inverness Dr. To reach the community and tour four decorated models, take I-94 north to Route 173 west (toward Antioch); turn left at Route 59; turn right at Bowles Road and proceed to the models on the right. Or, take Rt. 12 to Rt. 59 north to Bowles Road and turn left to the models. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday (closed Monday). For more information, call (847) 838-3838 or visit www.klmbuildersinc.com.

Here's a great way to participate in a holiday food drive for the underprivileged and receive up to \$5,000 off the purchase of a new luxury residence at one of five new home communities in Mount Prospect, Skokie or Roselle. Now through December 22, each can,



box, bag or other non-perishable food item that you bring to one Norwood Builders' communities will be worth \$500 off the purchase price of a new Norwood home or that can be applied toward the buyer's choice of options and upgrades. Norwood will then donate all the edibles to local food pantries. Up to 10 items will be honored for a \$5,000 maximum discount. Customers can also benefit from Norwood Builders' end-of-the-year sale, in effect through December 31, 2007. Buyers can claim big cash savings off the purchase price of their new residence or apply the discounts toward numerous options and upgrades of their choice (incentives vary per community; consult a Norwood Builders sales representative for more details). These specials are good at the following communities:

- Park Street Crossing, Norwood's newest community, which features 62 luxury condominiums in downtown Roselle. A number of unique condominium homes will also be available with expanded terraces and patio space for extra outdoor living. Base prices begin in the low \$200,000s. Call (630) 894-1000 for full details, or visit the sales office at 225 E. Main St.

- Founders Row, Norwood's attached single-family home community in Mount Prospect, offers 14 executive luxury rowhomes with traditional brick exterior designs. Base prices start in the upper \$800,000s. Call (847) 577-0100 for more information, or visit the sales office at 100 S. Emerson St.

- The Emerson at Village Centre accommodates 52 condominiums and duplexes in downtown Mount Prospect. Base prices start in the mid \$200,000s. For more information, phone (847) 577-0100, or visit the sales office at 100 S. Emerson St.

- The Residences at 8200 in Skokie offers several upscale condominium floorplans. Prices for these condominiums start from the upper \$200,000s. The Townhomes at 8200, located next door, offers five luxury townhomes that each provides a private entrance and attached two-car garage, plus two additional parking spaces. Base priced from the low \$400,000s. Call (847) 677-0500 for more details.

ACTIVE ADULT SHOPPERS

At Country Club Villas, a Joliet community of 122 townhomes geared toward active adults, for a limited time, buyers can choose from eight units that each overlook a scenic pond and include a free basement—a \$25,000 value. Qualified buyers can also capitalize on special financing programs now available through Countrywide Home Loans, Country Club Villas' preferred lender—including a mortgage loan offering a one-year lock on today's interest rate that can go lower if rates fall over the next year, as well as bridge loans, reverse mortgage loans and other personalized programs to help people sell their existing homes. Base prices at Country Club Villas range from \$249,900 to \$279,900. Every home also includes a walk-in shower in the master bath, granite countertops, maple cabinetry, vaulted ceilings, hardwood flooring, ceramic tile, an upgraded trim package and handsome brick and stone exteriors. Options (depending on the plan) include a full basement, family room, expanded great room, screened porch, enclosed patio and a deluxe master bath. Shoppers can walk through the three new models now under construction (all of which will officially open in December) and visit the on-site sales center open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays (and weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.). To reach Country Club Villas, take I-80 to the Briggs Street exit; head south on Briggs one mile to Spencer Road and turn right; head west on Spencer one block to the community (on the right). For more information, phone (815) 846-3341 or visit www.countryclubvillasllc.com.

>>> Today's New Home Finder

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Arlington Market
Elliott Builders
Custom Single-Family Homes
From \$599,999
847-670-0900
Luxury Condos from \$289,900
847-670-0900

Arlington Reserve
Lennar.com
Luxury rowhomes
From the mid \$400s
847-290-0600

Timber Court Condominiums
Luxury 1- & 2 BR condos
From the upper \$200s.
847-788-1200

BARTLETT

Asbury Place
Edward R. James Homes
Townhomes & rowhomes
From the upper \$200s
630-372-4388

BLOOMINGDALE

Bloomington Walk
Toll Brothers
Condos from upper \$200s
Townhomes from upper \$400s
630-980-8100

Eastgate
Dartmoor Homes
Single-family from low \$400s
630-406-7810

BRIDGEVIEW

Bridgeview Place
Lennar.com
Villas from the \$190s
Townhomes from the \$240s
708-233-5900

BUFFALO GROVE

Fairview Estates
Fidelity Wes
Maintenance-free single-family
homes from \$599,000
www.fidelitywes.com
847-229-9820

Waterbury Place
Edward R. James Homes
Townhomes, Row Homes,
SF, Villas & Duplex's
From upper \$300's-low \$800's
www.thewaterburyplace.com
847-955-1213

CARY

The Enclave at Fox Trails
Provident Development Group
Luxury Homes from the \$480s
847-639-0800

Lyons Ridge
Versman Development Co.
Custom Homes
From the low \$500s
847-516-9277

Harvest Glen
Versman Development Co.
Custom Homes
From the high \$600s
847-516-9277

CHICAGO

340 on the Park
LR Development
Condos from \$459,000
312-397-8900

550 St. Clair
Sutherland Pearsall Develop.
Condos from \$200s
312-222-0550

565 Quincy
Belgravia Group
Lofts and Condos
From the \$200s to \$400s
312-207-0007

600 Lake Shore Drive
Belgravia Group and Sandz
Development Co.
Condos from the high \$300s
to \$1.6 million
312-832-0060

3401 Ellis
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Townhomes from \$424,900
312-719-0710

3993 S. Drexel
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Townhomes from \$439,900
312-719-0710

4127 S. Drexel
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Condos from \$279,900
312-719-0710

4450-58 S. Drexel
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Townhomes from \$429,900
312-719-0710

4537 S. Drexel
Sutherland Pearsall Develop.
Penthouse Condos from \$349,900
312-719-0710

4715 S. Champlain
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Townhomes from \$269,900
312-719-0710

6201 S. Drexel
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
Townhomes from \$374,900
312-719-0710

6516 S. Woodlawn
Sutherland Pearsall Devel.
From \$219,900
312-719-0710

Avondale Estates
Elliott Builders
Custom Single-Family Homes
From \$819,900
773-539-8300

Belmont Lofts
Metropolitan Development
Enterprises
Lofts from \$225,900
www.belmont-lofts.com
773-202-7999

The Flats on Lasalle
Metropolitan Development
Enterprises
Studios from the \$120s
www.lasalleflats.com
312-587-0100

The Grand on Grand
Sutherland Pearsall Develop.
Penthouse Condos
From the \$1,295,500
312-467-9900

Harland Park 2
Belgravia Group
Townhomes
From the \$700s to \$1.3 million
773-935-0523

Lakeview Pointe
Prairie Shore Properties
Condos from \$284,900
847-853-4944

Library Tower
Lennar.com
Condos from the \$300s
312-386-9427

MetroPlace
MCL Companies
www.mclcompanies.com
Condo, Duplex & Single Family
From \$265,900
312-321-1400

Old Town Village West
MCL Companies
Condos from \$299,000
312-587-9354
www.mclcompanies.com

Parc Chestnut
Lennar.com
Condos from the low \$400s
312-654-0626

Parc Huron
Lennar.com
Condos from the \$200s
COMING SOON!

Park Place
Stonegate Development
Condos from \$339,900
312-491-0200

Rainbo Village
Metropolitan Development
Enterprises
Townhomes, Lofts, Ranch Homes,
Duplexes
From \$256,900
www.rainbovillage.com
773-271-5111

Roosevelt Square
LR Development
Townhomes from \$489,000
Condos from \$285,000
312-836-1200

Waterview Tower
Teng Real Estate Services
Condos from \$649,000
877-231-3594

CRYSTAL LAKE

Bristol Ridge
Dartmoor Homes
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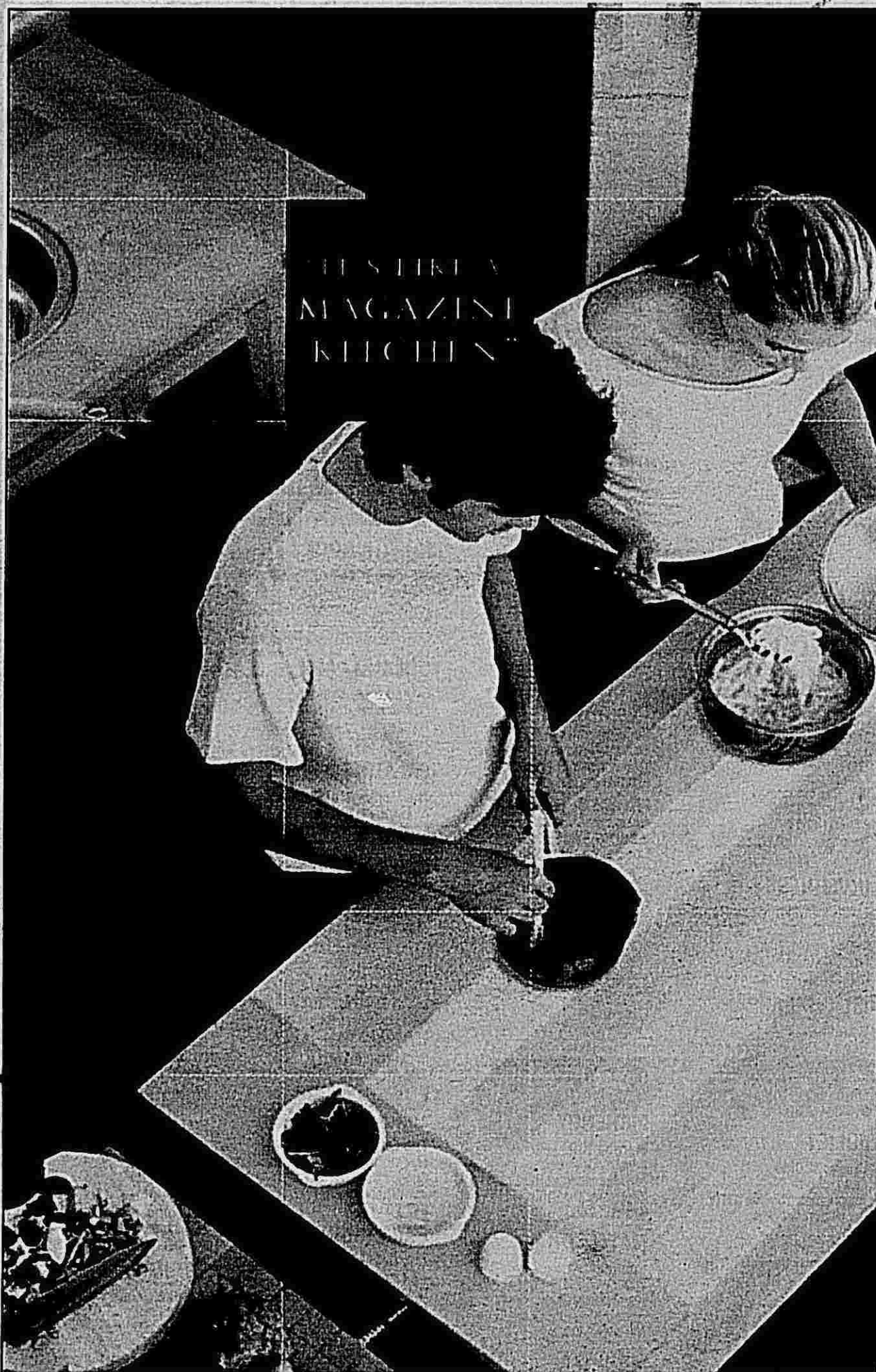
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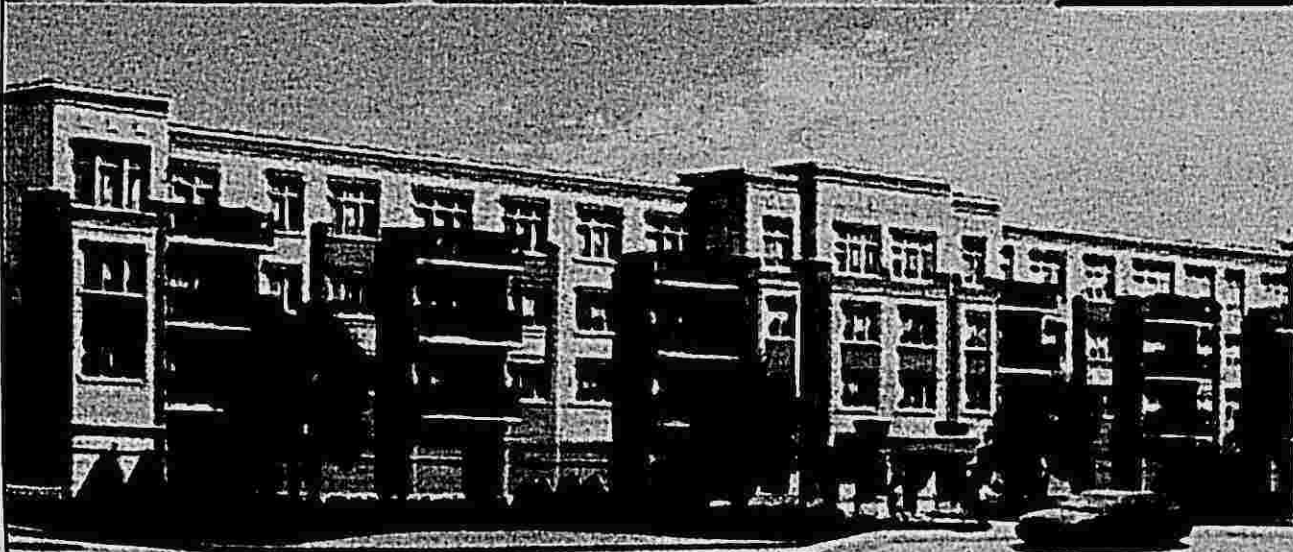
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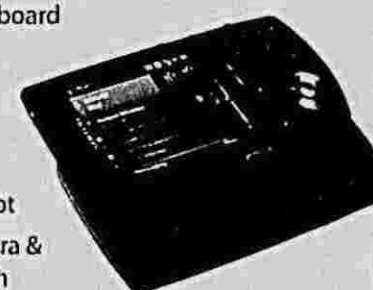
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